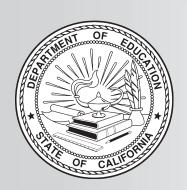
California High School Exit Examination

Mathematics Teacher Guide



California Department of Education 2004

California High School Exit Examination Mathematics Teacher Guide

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Foreword to the 2004 Edition of the CAHSEE Mathematics Teacher Guide

This year's edition of the Teacher Guide has been updated but not changed substantially from the 2002 edition. The updates include:

- New information has been provided about the consequences of the test, based on the ruling of the State Board of Education in July 2003 (see page 2).
- Ten released test questions are new to this edition of the Teacher Guide and are provided as samples for the following mathematics content standards:

Number Sense 2.2

6th Grade Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability 2.5

Algebra and Functions 4.2

Measurement and Geometry 1.1

Measurement and Geometry 2.3

Measurement and Geometry 2.4

Measurement and Geometry 3.3

Algebra I 2.0

Mathematical Reasoning 2.1

Mathematical Reasoning 2.4

(see pages 21, 27, 50, 53, 60, 61, 64, 68, 82, and 85).

The released test questions for Algebra and Functions 4.2 and Algebra I 2.0 are from the 2002 set of released test questions. The released test question for each of the other standards noted above are from the 2004 set of test questions released this Spring.

• Additional information about resources available for teachers has been provided (see pages 9 and 10).

In addition, the question and answer section and the test blueprints have been removed from the Teacher Guide, as this information is available on the CDE Web site:

http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/hs/

Introduction

The California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) Teacher Guides for English-language arts (ELA) and mathematics are designed to provide comprehensive and accessible information to assist teachers in preparing their students for the CAHSEE. This guide contains two sections, and teachers are encouraged to reproduce individual sections or all of the guide for classroom use. Districts and school personnel also are encouraged to use this material in their staff development activities.

- > Section 1, "About the CAHSEE," provides an overview of the purpose and content of the CAHSEE. This section also includes a set of checklists teachers may use when writing test questions for classroom use, information about security for the CAHSEE, and a glossary of terms used in this guide.
- > Section 2, "Assessing the CAHSEE Mathematics Standards," is designed to give detailed information about how the California academic content standards for mathematics are tested on the CAHSEE. The mathematics standards assessed on the CAHSEE are from the following strands:

Number Sense Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability Algebra and Functions Measurement and Geometry Algebra I Mathematical Reasoning

Section 2 provides a summary of the essential knowledge and skills covered in each strand, followed by information about how the standard may be tested. For each standard, a released test question from a previous administration of the CAHSEE is provided, with an explanation of the correct answer and an analysis of the incorrect answers.

Section 1 About the CAHSEE

Background

After determining that local proficiency standards established pursuant to Education Code Section 51215 (repealed January 1, 2000) were generally set below a high-school level and were not consistent with the state's academic content standards, the Legislature indicated its intent to set higher standards for high school graduation. In proposing the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE), the Legislature's primary goal was to "... significantly improve pupil achievement in high school and to ensure that pupils who graduate from high school can demonstrate grade level competency in reading, writing, and mathematics ..." (Senate Bill 2, Section 1[b]). Education Code Section 60850 (Chapter 1, statutes of 1999-2000, S.B. 2X, O'Connell) authorized the CAHSEE to be developed in accordance with State Board of Education (SBE)-adopted academic content standards in English-language arts and mathematics. The CAHSEE was developed based on recommendations of the High School Exit Examination Standards Panel, whose members were appointed by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and approved by the SBE.

The CAHSEE was offered for the first time in spring 2001 (March and May) to volunteer 9th graders (class of 2004). In October 2001, Assembly Bill 1609 (Calderon) removed the option for 9th graders to take the CAHSEE beginning with the 2002 administration. The CAHSEE was next administered in spring 2002 to all 10th graders who had not passed it during the spring 2001 administration. It has since been administered several times to the remaining students in the class of 2004 who had not yet passed one or both parts (i.e., ELA and mathematics). The class of 2005 took the CAHSEE for the first time in the spring of 2003. In July 2003, the SBE took action to move the passage of the CAHSEE as a condition of graduation to the Class of 2006. Beginning in the 2005-2006 school year, students must pass the CAHSEE as a condition of graduation, as well as meet the district's requirements for graduation. The Class of 2006 took the CAHSEE for the first time as 10th graders in February or March 2004.

For more information about the CAHSEE, visit the CDE Web site at http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/hs/

Purpose and Content

The primary purpose of the CAHSEE is to significantly improve pupil achievement in public high schools and to ensure that pupils who graduate from public high schools can demonstrate grade-level competency in reading, writing, and mathematics. The CAHSEE helps identify students who are not developing skills that are essential for life after high school and encourages districts to give these students the attention and resources necessary to help them achieve these skills during their high school years.

The CAHSEE has two parts: English-language arts (ELA) and mathematics. The ELA part addresses state academic content standards through grade 10. In reading, this includes vocabulary, decoding, comprehension, and analysis of information and literary texts. In writing, this covers writing strategies, applications, and the conventions of English (e.g., grammar, spelling, and punctuation). The mathematics part of the CAHSEE addresses state academic content standards in grades 6 and 7 and Algebra I. The exam includes statistics, data analysis, and probability; number sense; measurement and geometry; mathematical reasoning; and algebra. Students are also asked to demonstrate a strong foundation in computation and arithmetic, including working with decimals, fractions, and percents.

The test questions on the CAHSEE assess a range of difficulty levels, consistent with good testing practices. These questions assess full mastery of the designated academic content standards as well as foundational knowledge and skills underlying these standards, as recommended by the High School Exit Examination Standards Panel.

For example, the ELA part of the CAHSEE includes test questions that require students to determine the meaning of words in context. This vocabulary strategy is not specifically named in the grades 9 and 10 academic content standards, but it is included on the exam because it is a foundational, underlying skill required for achievement of the grades 9 and 10 vocabulary standards. Similarly, most CAHSEE ELA test forms contain at least one poem. Although poetry is not specifically named in the grades 9 and 10 literary analysis standards, analysis of poetry is a focus of standards in the earlier grades. In mathematics, standards from grades 6 and 7 and Algebra I are included on the CAHSEE because these academic content standards represent both foundational and competency standards that students should meet to graduate from high school.

All questions on the examination have been evaluated for their appropriateness for measuring the designated ELA and mathematics academic content standards. They have been reviewed and approved by committees of California educators, including teachers, administrators, and academicians. In addition to being reviewed for content, all items have been reviewed and approved by California educators for their adherence to the principles of fairness and have been evaluated to determine if bias exists with respect to characteristics, such as gender, ethnicity, and language.

Both parts of the CAHSEE (ELA and mathematics) have multiple-choice questions, which consist of a question or statement followed by a set of four possible answer choices. Only one answer choice is correct, and there is no scoring penalty for guessing an answer choice incorrectly. Mathematics items may include pictorial material, such as drawings, tables, diagrams, or graphs. In addition to multiple-choice questions, there is a writing task on the ELA part of the CAHSEE. The task requires either a response to literary or informational text or a response to a stand-alone writing prompt.

Each operational form of the mathematics portion of the CAHSEE includes 12 field-test questions consisting of newly developed items. The ELA portion of the CAHSEE includes 7 field-test questions (multiple-choice only) on each operational form. The field-test questions are not identified in the test booklets. These questions are selected for the collection of statistical data only and are not included in any individual or group student score reports.

The test blueprints for the CAHSEE, which indicate the academic content standards tested and the number of items per standard, are available on the CAHSEE Web site (noted previously in the Background section).

The CAHSEE is not a timed test, which means it has no fixed time limit in which students must complete the examination. However, students are expected to complete their work during the regular school day unless their Individualized Educational Program (IEP) or Section 504 Plan specifies the need for extra time beyond the school day.

English-Language Arts Academic Content Standards

The standards for the English-language arts part of the CAHSEE are taken from the California academic content standards for grades 9 and 10. Standards from the following strands are included: Word Analysis, Reading Comprehension, Literary Response and Analysis, Writing Strategies, Writing Conventions, and Writing Applications.

The English-language arts part of the CAHSEE contains 79 multiple-choice test questions (72 operational questions and 7 field-test questions) and 1 writing task. Table 1 shows how the operational items are distributed across the six strands.

Table 1
Distribution of CAHSEE ELA Questions by Strand

Strand	Number of Multiple-Choice Items	Number of Writing Tasks
Word Analysis	7	-
Reading Comprehension	18	-
Literary Response and Analysis	20	-
Writing Strategies	12	-
Writing Conventions	15	-
Writing Applications	-	1
Total	72	1

Mathematics Academic Content Standards

As mentioned above, the standards for the mathematics part of the CAHSEE are taken from the California academic content standards in grades 6 and 7, and in Algebra I. They include standards from the following mathematical strands: Number Sense; Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability; Algebra and Functions; Measurement and Geometry; Algebra I; Mathematical Reasoning.

The mathematics part of the CAHSEE contains 92 multiple-choice test questions (80 operational questions and 12 field-test questions). Table 2 shows how the operational items are distributed across the six strands.

Table 2
Distribution of CAHSEE Mathematics Questions by Strand

Strand	Number of Multiple-Choice Items
Number Sense	14
Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability	12
Algebra and Functions	17
Measurement and Geometry	17
Algebra I	12
Mathematical Reasoning	8
Total	80

Development of Test Questions for the CAHSEE \square

The test questions that appear on the CAHSEE have been through an extensive development process to ensure that they are valid and fair measures of what students know and are able to do.

Content Validity

To ensure that the CAHSEE is a valid measure of the specified academic content standards, the test questions are carefully designed to assess the content indicated in the test blueprints. Insofar as possible, each question requires students to demonstrate knowledge and/or skills in only one standard. Because many academic content standards cover a wide range of knowledge and skills, individual test questions may assess one component of the standard. Other questions may address underlying, foundational knowledge or skills that are required for higher achievement in the standard.

Technical Ouality

Well-written test questions give students an opportunity to demonstrate what they know and are able to do; students do not have to guess what the question is asking. When questions are clearly written and easily understood, students are able to provide evidence of their learning. Test questions have only one clearly correct answer. The language is simple, direct, and free of ambiguity. Questions should not test reading ability or vocabulary if that is not the purpose. CAHSEE test questions are reviewed for content validity and technical quality by committees of California educators.

Test Bias

Bias in testing can take several forms, including the use of unfamiliar or insensitive language and terms, the presentation of stereotypes, and the inclusion of concepts that are offensive or negative toward any group. During the development process, CAHSEE test questions are continually reviewed for potential bias to ensure that the CAHSEE meets the highest professional testing standards.

For general matters of style and grammar, CAHSEE test developers consult *The Chicago Manual of Style, The Gregg Reference Manual, Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary,* and *The American Heritage College Dictionary.*

The following checklists are used by CAHSEE item writers and review committees as a basis for evaluating the content validity, technical quality, and fairness of test questions. Teachers may also use these checklists to improve their own classroom assessments. For multiple-choice questions for either English-language arts or mathematics, teachers may wish to write standards-based test questions to help students prepare for the CAHSEE. The checklist in Table 3 is provided for teachers to evaluate their own questions against the general requirements for CAHSEE multiple-choice questions. Table 4 provides some useful guidelines teachers may use for developing English-language arts writing tasks.

Table 3
Development Checklist for Multiple-Choice Questions

✓	Requirements
The test qu	estion as a whole—
	Has one and only one clearly correct answer
	Clearly presents one central idea
	Measures the intended objective
	Has a clear purpose
_	Is within the appropriate range of difficulty
_	Contains simple, direct, and unambiguous language
_	Uses age-appropriate vocabulary and sentence structure
_	Does <u>not</u> use vocabulary and idiomatic phrases that could be unfamiliar
	Does <u>not</u> rely on students' possessing outside knowledge
	Tests worthwhile (not trivial or obscure) concepts or information
	Reflects current teaching practices
	Is <u>not</u> tricky or cute
	Does <u>not</u> appear to ask for the student's opinion
	Is grammatically correct
	Uses the active voice and avoids informal diction and usage
	Follows the appropriate style guidelines
	Is free of bias, sensitive language or topics, and stereotypes

Development Checklist for Multiple-Choice Questions, continued

1	Requirements				
The stem of	The stem of the test question—				
	Gives the test taker a full sense of what the item is asking				
	Is either a question or an incomplete statement				
	Is both clear and concise				
	If negative, contains no negatives in the distractors				
The stimulu	s or passage for the test question(s)—				
	Is likely to be interesting to students				
	Is correctly and clearly labeled				
	Provides all the information needed to answer the questions				
	Can be reproduced clearly in a test book				
The respons	se options—				
	Are written so that no one option is significantly different from the others in length, specificity, or complexity				
	Relate to the stem in the same way				
	Do <u>not</u> include an option that denies the truth of any other option				
	Do <u>not</u> deny the truth of the stem				
	Do <u>not</u> give clues to students, such as the use of absolutes like <i>always</i> and <i>never</i>				
	Do <u>not</u> repeat words that could be placed in the stem				
	Include plausible and reasonable misconceptions and errors				
	Do <u>not</u> include distractors that are phrased differently but have the same meaning as other distractors				
The set of to	est questions—				
	Includes a sufficient number of questions to justify the time required to read the stimulus or passage				
	Contains questions that are entirely independent of each other				
	Reflects an appropriate range of difficulty				

Table 4 Development Checklist for Writing Tasks

1	Requirements
The task—	
	Directly assesses the knowledge and/or skills specified by the academic content standard
	Clearly tells students what they are being asked to do
	Is appropriate in scope, i.e., neither too broad nor too narrow
	Uses precise action verbs and descriptive words
	Invites and supports a range of responses
	Is specific about the expected level of detail required in the response
	Does <u>not</u> invite personal responses about students' values or beliefs
	Does <u>not</u> advocate a particular value that may not be common to all students
	Uses age-appropriate vocabulary and sentence structure
	Does <u>not</u> use unfamiliar vocabulary or unfamiliar idiomatic phrases
	Is free from problems of bias or sensitivity
	Is likely to be a topic of interest to students

Test Security \square

One of the most significant guarantors of fairness to all students who take the CAHSEE is that passages, writing prompts, graphical materials, and test questions remain secure at all times. Individuals who circumvent or attempt to circumvent procedures to maintain test security diminish the legitimate and honest efforts of all other students and teachers to participate in the state's assessment system. The California Department of Education (CDE) has the authority, according to the Education Code Section 60851 (b) and (c) and the copyright statutes of the United States, to act against any individual or group of individuals who knowingly attempt to copy, duplicate, or transmit in any way, the contents of secure material from test booklets, answer documents, in whole or in part, to any other individual or group of individuals. The California Department of Education may employ procedures to maintain the test security of the CAHSEE, including but not limited to monitoring of test administration, document handling, and post-test analytic techniques such as mark discrimination analysis.

Student Study Guides

In November 2003, CDE released study guides for each portion of the CAHSEE, English-language arts and mathematics. The study guides feature answers to frequently asked questions, test-taking tips, and practice tests. Each guide dedicates one chapter to each strand, and includes released test questions with the solutions explained. While the study guides were written for students to use independently, teachers may incorporate them into their classroom instruction to prepare their students for the CAHSEE. CDE will provide each tenth grade student in the class of 2006 with a hard copy of each study guide. Additionally, the guides are available on the CDE Web site.

Resource Documents

The information in this Teacher Guide is based on the California academic content standards and the California frameworks in English-language arts and mathematics. These documents may be ordered from the California Department of Education, or they may be downloaded from the CDE Web site, as shown below:

The English-Language Arts Content Standards for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve is available from the California Department of Education, CDE Press, Sales Unit, 1430 N Street, Suite 3207, Sacramento, CA 95814; 1-800-995-4099, ext. 1. It is also available at http://www.cde.ca.gov/ on the Internet.

The Mathematics Content Standards for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve (1997) is available from the California Department of Education, CDE Press, Sales Unit, 1430 N Street, Suite 3207, Sacramento, CA 95814; 1-800-995-4099, ext. 1. It is also available at http://www.cde.ca.gov/on the Internet.

The Mathematics Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve (1999), is available from the California Department of Education, CDE Press, Sales Unit, 1430 N Street, Suite 3207, Sacramento, CA 95814; 1-800-995-4099, ext. 1. It is also available at http://www.cde.ca.gov/ on the Internet.

The Reading/Language Arts Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve is available from the California Department of Education, CDE Press, Sales Unit, 1430 N Street, Suite 3207, Sacramento, CA 95814; 1-800-995-4099, ext. 1. It is also available at http://www.cde.ca.gov/ on the Internet.

Other Resources

The student study guides for the CAHSEE are available at http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/hs/resources.asp

Released Test Questions from the CAHSEE are available at http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/hs/resources.asp

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are available at http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/hs/faq.asp

Blueprints for the CAHSEE are available at http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/hs/admin.asp

Glossary of Terms Used in this Guide

<u>Answer Choices</u> — The correct answer and the distractors in a multiple-choice test question.

<u>Blueprint</u> — The plan for assessment that specifies the number of questions on each test form according to strand and academic content standard.

<u>Clueing</u> — An instance in which one test question provides information that could be used to select the correct answer to another question, or an instance in which the stem in a multiple-choice question clues the correct answer.

<u>Constructs</u> — The underlying cognitive domains for each strand in the California academic content standards (e.g., conceptual understanding or problem-solving in mathematics; reading, understanding, and analyzing grade-level texts in English-language arts).

Distractors — Incorrect answers to a multiple-choice stem.

<u>Field-Test Questions</u> — Test questions that are administered to students to gain information about the quality of the question. Student performance on these questions does not affect student scores.

<u>Foundational Knowledge/Foundational Skill</u> — Knowledge or skill that a student would be taught and be expected to know prior to taking courses covering the academic content standards tested in the CAHSEE.

<u>Item</u> — A test question written in one of several possible item formats.

<u>Item Format</u> — The basic design of a test question (e.g., multiple-choice, constructed response).

<u>Key</u> — The correct answer to a multiple-choice question.

<u>Multiple-Choice Question</u> — A stem plus a number of response options or answer choices (four for CAHSEE).

<u>Response Options</u> — The choices in a multiple-choice question, consisting of one key (correct answer) and a number of distractors (three for CAHSEE).

<u>Scoring Guide</u> — The rubric or protocol to follow when assigning a point value to responses to a writing task.

<u>Specifications</u> — The document that includes a description of how each standard is assessed on the CAHSEE

Standard — Statement of what students should know and be able to do.

<u>Stem</u> — The initial part of a multiple-choice test question in which the task or premise is given. The stem may be a question, an incomplete statement, or a set of directions.

<u>Stimulus</u> — A picture, graph, map, chart, quotation, or other text that students are asked to interpret when answering a test item.

<u>Strand</u> — A category of standards that relate to each other for purposes of reporting performance on the CAHSEE.

<u>Writing Task</u> — A test question in which students are asked to supply their own response to a question rather than choose among options for a correct answer.

Section 2 Assessing the CAHSEE Mathematics Standards

The Mathematics part of the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) assesses designated California academic content standards from grades 6 and 7 and Algebra I. A multiple-choice format is used to assess six strands: Number Sense; Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability; Algebra and Functions; Measurement and Geometry; Algebra I; and Mathematical Reasoning. Each of these strands is described in detail in the following section of the Teacher Guide. For reporting purposes, the Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability strands for grades 6 and 7 are combined. The Mathematical Reasoning test questions, which are always based on concepts in Number Sense, Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability, Algebra and Functions, and Measurement and Geometry, are reported under those strands. Thus, there is no reporting category specifically for Mathematical Reasoning.

The CAHSEE focuses on mathematics constructs that are taught and assessed throughout elementary, middle, and high school. Three underlying constructs have been identified for the mathematics part of the CAHSEE: computational and procedural skills, conceptual understanding, and problem solving. Test questions on the exam cover one or more of these constructs, and CAHSEE test question writers and reviewers verify that each question measures the appropriate construct as well as the identified academic content standard. The constructs for each standard are given in the following pages.

Although test questions for the mathematics part of the CAHSEE do not specifically test students on mathematics vocabulary, they may require students to understand mathematical terms. It is especially important that students know the terms that appear in the language of the academic content standards associated with a question.

The following pages of the Teacher Guide discuss the mathematics strands and academic content standards included in the CAHSEE. The mathematics strands are:

- Number Sense
- Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability
- Algebra and Functions
- Measurement and Geometry
- Algebra I
- Mathematical Reasoning

After each strand is described, each standard in that strand is discussed in detail, and a sample released test question is provided to illustrate each standard. Also included are possible reasons that students might select the distractors, as well as an explanation of the correct answer. Teachers will find this section of the guide useful in understanding how the California academic content standards are assessed on the CAHSEE. A thorough understanding of the standards and the test questions associated with them will help teachers focus their instruction on the academic content standards and better prepare students for the exam.

Number Sense Strand \Box

Students' understanding of fractions, decimals, percents, and integers—and their relationship to each other and to the other disciplines of mathematics—is an essential component of their mathematics learning. CAHSEE test questions in the Number Sense strand require students to demonstrate a foundational understanding of numbers and ways they are represented.

Students will be asked to:

•□ solve problems with fractions, decimals, and percents

•□ compare and order numbers

 $\bullet\Box$ demonstrate an understanding of percents, including those less than 1 and greater \Box than 100 \Box

• understand and meaningfully interpret large and small numbers in scientific notation

• use specific characteristics of numbers, such as multiples, factors, and primes

• use and represent integers as the basis for the comparison of quantities.

Essential to success in this CAHSEE strand is the student's understanding of the mathematical operations and the ways they are related to each other. This understanding includes:

 \bullet \square the meaning of arithmetic operations with fractions, decimals, and integers

 $\bullet \Box$ the associative and commutative properties of addition and multiplication

• \Box the distributive property of multiplication over addition

• \Box the understanding and use of inverse relationships of addition and subtraction, \Box multiplication, and division \Box

• I finding square roots, squaring numbers, and using the inverse relationship between them.

Students also should possess computational fluency. They should be able to select appropriate methods and tools for computing with fractions and decimals; perform mental arithmetic; use algorithms for computing with fractions, decimals, and integers; use strategies for estimation and for judging the reasonableness of results; and be able to analyze and explain methods for solving problems with proportions.

The ten California academic content standards covered by the CAHSEE Number Sense strand are discussed in the following pages.

The radius of the earth's orbit is Strand **Number Sense (NS)** 150,000,000,000 meters. What is this number in scientific notation? Standard 7NS1.1 Read, write, and compare 1.5×10^{-11} rational numbers in scientific notation (positive and negative 1.5×10^{11} B powers of 10) with approximate numbers using scientific notation. 15×10^{10} Conceptual 150×10^9 Construct □ **Understanding**

Scientific notation is required knowledge in science and engineering because many numbers are either so large or so close to zero that there is no other convenient way to write them. CAHSEE test questions in this standard require students to demonstrate understanding of the basic concepts of scientific notation using approximations of very large and very small numbers. Test questions may also involve the translation of approximate numbers into scientific notation, the comparison of numbers in scientific notation with either positive or negative exponents, and the understanding of the relative size of two numbers in scientific notation.

Sample Test Question

The sample question gives the radius of the earth's orbit as 150,000,000,000 meters and asks students to translate that number into scientific notation. The correct answer is choice B. Students should recognize that the place-value distance from the 1 (highest place value, 100 billion) to the decimal is 11 digits and that this value provides an appropriate representation of the equivalence as 10^{11} , also equivalent to $10\times10\times10\times10\times10\times10\times10\times10\times10\times10\times10\times10$. Students also should know that expressions in scientific notation may include a multiplier, between 1 and 10, along with an exponential value of 10. While exact powers of 10 are expressed without a multiplier (e.g., 10^{11}), numbers such as 150,000,000,000,000 require a multiplier along with the equivalent power of 10. A typical method of finding the multiplier and the exponent is to count the number of decimal places the decimal must move to create a number between 1 and 10. In the example, the decimal point is moved 11 places to the left to get 1.5 for the multiplier and +11 for the exponent.

Analysis of Distractors

Two of the distractors in the sample test question, C and D, represent common errors students may make in finding equivalence between standard and scientific notation: Both distractors are equivalent in number to 150,000,000,000 (and 1.5×10^{11}), but neither has a multiplier within the

appropriate range (from 1 to 10). Distractor A expresses the power of 10 as $\frac{1}{10^{11}}$ (until students

have a clear understanding of the magnitude of very large and very small numbers, they are often unsure which direction the decimal point should move.)

Strand □ Number Sense (NS)

Standard 7NS1.2

Add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational numbers (integers, fractions, and terminating decimals) and take positive rational numbers to whole-number powers.

Constructs Procedural Skills,

Conceptual Understanding

Which of the following numerical expressions results in a negative number?

- **A** (-7)+(-3)
- **B** (-3)+(7)
- \mathbf{C} (3) + (7)
- **D** (3)+(-7)+(11)

M00116

All students should understand the basic arithmetic functions involving rational numbers in all forms and be comfortable performing calculations with positive and negative numbers. CAHSEE test questions in this standard require students to demonstrate computational fluency with rational numbers and an understanding of the relationships between these types of numbers. These skills are fundamental to achievement of the California academic content standards in mathematics.

Sample Test Question

The sample question asks students to compute four combinations of values with different signs and then identify which of the sums is negative. The correct answer is choice A. Students should understand that adding rational numbers with unlike signs requires finding the difference of their absolute values and then choosing the sign of the addend with the greater absolute value. Students should also recognize that adding rational numbers with like signs requires adding the absolute values and keeping the sign, as in choice A: (-7)+(-3)=-10.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors present students with errors in computing with integers. The addends in two of the distractors, B and C, have the same absolute values as the addends in the correct answer, A, with sums of 4 and 10 respectively, but they are both positive integers. Distractor D introduces a third value and has a sum of 7, but it, too, is a positive integer.

Some students attend school 180 of the 365 days Strand **Number Sense (NS)** in a year. About what part of the year do they attend school? Standard 7NS1.3 Convert 18% fractions to decimals and 50% percents and use these representations in estimations, \mathbf{C} 75% computations and applications. **D** 180% Procedural Skills, Constructs □ M00047 Conceptual **Understanding**

Students using mathematics in their daily lives will need to know how to convert decimals to fractions to percents with ease. The recognition of equivalent forms is essential for student fluency with numbers. CAHSEE test questions in this standard require students to demonstrate facility in finding equivalent values and representations for numbers as well as to find and compute values using fractions, decimals, and percents. Students must also be able to use these various representations for estimating and performing computations in mathematical applications.

Sample Test Question

The sample question asks students to determine what percent 180 is of 365. The correct answer is choice B. Students should recognize that the correct value is found by dividing the part (180) by the whole (365), giving $180 \div 365 \approx 0.493$. The question also requires conversion of 0.493 to a percent by multiplying by $100 \ (0.493 = 49.3\%)$. Finally, students should recognize that the phrase "about what part" in the stem calls for a rounded percent rather than an exact value, and that $49.3\% \approx 50\%$. It is to be expected that many students will use mental estimation skills, rather than computation, to determine that 180 is about half of 365.

Analysis of Distractors

Two of the distractors, A and D, represent a misunderstanding of 180 as 18% and 180%.

Distractor C indicates incorrect computation of the decimal equivalent of $\frac{180}{365}$ or a possible guess with apparent plausibility.

Strand Number Sense (NS)

Standard 7NS1.6 Calculate the percentage of increases and decreases of a quantity.

Constructs Procedural Skills,

Conceptual Understanding

The cost of an afternoon movie ticket last year was \$4.00. This year an afternoon movie ticket costs \$5.00. What is the percent increase of the ticket from last year to this year?

A 10%

B 20%

C 25%

D 40%

M02158

CAHSEE test questions in this standard require students to demonstrate understanding of percent increase and decrease, which is a fundamental tool in analyzing numerical information. For example, a price change of one dollar can be very meaningful in terms of buying a loaf of bread and inconsequential in terms of buying a car. Students should understand that percent change clarifies the impact of this kind of change, and they should be able to calculate the change with facility. Standard 7NS1.6 will also be assessed with test questions that require students to find the percent decrease. Finding the quantity that results from a given percentage increase or decrease is assessed in standard 7NS1.7.

Sample Test Question

The sample question requires students to calculate the percent of increase for a movie ticket whose price increased from \$4.00 to \$5.00. The correct answer is choice C. Students should understand that finding the percent increase or decrease of a quantity requires first finding the difference between the initial value and the final value. In the sample question, the difference is \$1.00. Then to find the percent increase, students must know to compare the difference to the

initial cost by using division: $\frac{$1.00}{$4.00}$. Finally, the resulting decimal must be converted to its

equivalent percent: $1 \div 4 = 0.25 = 25\%$.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors represent errors resulting from a misunderstanding of the concept being tested. Distractor A results from taking the difference between the two ticket prices and incorrectly converting it to a percent. Distractor B results from multiplication of the two values in the problem, \$4.00 and \$5.00. Distractor D results from converting the original ticket price to a percent.

Strand Number Sense (NS)

Standard 7NS1.7 Solve problems that involve discounts, markups, commissions, and profit, and compute simple and compound interest.

Constructs Procedural Skills,

Conceptual Understanding, Problem Solving Sally puts \$200.00 in a bank account. Each year the account earns 8% simple interest. How much interest will be earned in three years?

- **A** \$16.00
- **B** \$24.00
- C \$48.00
- **D** \$160.00

M02119

CAHSEE test questions in this standard require students to solve a variety of problems involving percents. Both consumers and people working in business need to understand the mathematical meaning of common business terms such as commission, profit, and loss, as well as how to make interest computations. Solving problems of these types is one of the most important skills students need as they become adults. Understanding these concepts and their applications can mean the difference between students managing their money and other resources well, or not at all. This standard will also be assessed with test questions that require students to find simple and compound interest, as well as discounts, markups, and commissions. A maximum of three iterations is used for questions that involve calculating compound interest. The iterations include the initial multiplication of principal by interest rate.

Sample Test Question

The sample question asks students to determine the amount of simple interest \$200 will earn in three years at the given rate. The correct answer is choice C. Students should recognize that simple interest is calculated by multiplying the principal by the annual rate and then multiplying by the time. In the sample question, the principal is \$200, the rate is 8%, and the time is 3 years. To calculate correctly, students are also required to convert 8% to its decimal equivalent ($$200 \times 0.08 \times 3 = 48).

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors represent errors resulting from failure to perform one of the required steps and/or from a computation error. Distractor A represents one year's interest and results from the multiplication of the principal and the interest rate only. Distractor B represents multiplication of the rate times the number of years only. Distractor D may be attractive to students who converted the interest rate to a decimal incorrectly, multiplying \$200 by 0.8, and also failed to multiply by the number of years.

Strand \square	Number Sense (NS)	$\frac{10^{-2}}{10^{-4}} =$	
Standard	7NS2.1		
	negative whole-number	$\mathbf{A} = 10^{-6}$	
exponents. Multiply and divide expressions involving		$\mathbf{B} = 10^{-2}$	
exponents wi	th a common base.	$\mathbf{C} = 10^2$	
$Constructs \square$	Procedural Skills,	$\mathbf{D} = 10^8$	
	Conceptual Understanding		M02832

CAHSEE test questions in this standard require students to understand the concept of negative exponents. One of the most powerful concepts in mathematics is that exponential notation can be extended to include new concepts. Negative exponents are an example of this kind of extension.

Sample Test Question

The sample question presents a numerical calculation requiring students to demonstrate their understanding of the rule for dividing expressions involving exponents with a common base. The correct answer is choice C. Students should understand that 10^{-2} is equivalent

to
$$\frac{1}{10^2}$$
 and $\frac{1}{10^{-4}}$ is equivalent to 10^4 . Thus, it is possible to represent the problem as $\frac{10 \cdot 10 \cdot 10 \cdot 10}{10 \cdot 10}$, making the underlying concept more apparent. $\frac{10 \cdot 10 \cdot 10 \cdot 10}{10 \cdot 10}$ can be reduced

by dividing it by $\frac{10 \cdot 10}{10 \cdot 10}$ to $10 \cdot 10$, which is equivalent to 10^2 . Once the students master the concept behind negative exponents, they understand that when dividing exponential expressions with the same base, the exponents must be subtracted, so that $\frac{10^{-2}}{10^{-4}}$ is equivalent to $10^{(-2)-(-4)^3}$, which is equivalent to 10^2 .

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors represent misunderstandings of the concepts involved in the calculation. Distractor A represents the addition of the exponents or an error in the subtraction of (-4)-(-2). Distractor B shows a failure to apply the negative signs correctly in the same subtraction. Distractor D represents a failure to understand the fundamental concept, as it results from multiplying -2 by -4.

Strand Number Sense (NS)

Standard 7NS2.2

Add and subtract fractions by using factoring to find common denominators.

Constructs Procedural Skills,

Conceptual Understanding Which fraction is equivalent to $\frac{5}{6} + \frac{7}{8}$?

A $\frac{35}{48}$

 $\mathbf{B} = \frac{6}{7}$

 $C = \frac{20}{21}$

D $\frac{41}{24}$

M12713

The focus of this content standard is on the students' ability to add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators that share one or more factors. Students should be able to find the prime factorization of each denominator, then combine factors to determine the least common denominator. CAHSEE test questions in this standard require students to perform addition and subtraction arithmetic using equivalent fractions with common denominators. The algorithmic approach of this standard is associated with the requirement that common denominators be determined by factoring.

Sample Test Question

The sample requires students to find the needed common denominator for 6 and 8 using prime factors. The correct answer choice is D. Students should recognize that the prime factors for 6 are 2 and 3 and that the prime factors for 8 are 2 and 4. Since the common prime factor is 2, including the additional factors of 3 and 4 gives $2 \times 3 \times 4$ as the prime factors of the least common denominator. Students should then find equivalent fractions using the least common denominator and add the fractions.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors represent misunderstandings of the concept being tested. Distractor A shows the numerators and denominators being multiplied together, respectively. Distractor B shows the numerators and denominators being added together, respectively. Distractor C represents the numerators of the equivalent fractions being expressed as a numerator and denominator.

Strand	Number Sense (NS)	$(3^8)^2 =$
	7NS2.3 ride, and simplify abers by using es.	A 3 ⁴ B 3 ⁶ C 3 ¹⁰
Constructs	Procedural Skills, Conceptual□ Understanding	D □3 ¹⁶

CAHSEE test questions in this standard require students to select the appropriate rules for operations with exponents with common bases and perform accurate computations in simplifying rational numbers. Students should understand the following rules:

- adding exponents when multiplying numbers with common bases
- subtracting exponents when dividing numbers with common bases
- multiplying exponents when raising a number to a particular power.

Test questions may include those requiring multi-step operations, such as the simplification of numerators and denominators with common factors.

Sample Test Question

The sample question requires students to expand $\left(3^{8}\right)^{2}$ using the rule for multiplying exponents in parentheses $\left[\left(a^{b}\right)^{c}=a^{bc}\right]$. The correct answer is choice D. In this instance, students should use the rule to determine that $\left(3^{8}\right)^{2}=3^{16}$.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors present the other three operations that could be performed. Distractor A represents the inappropriate operation of division, rather than multiplication. Distractor B represents the inappropriate operation of subtraction. Distractor C represents the addition of the exponents, which students might choose if they confused this calculation with one requiring multiplication of exponential expressions with the same base.

22

The square root of 150 is between Strand **Number Sense (NS)** 10 and 11. 7NS2.4 Standard 11 and 12 Use the inverse relationship between raising to a power and 12 and 13. extracting the root of a perfect 13 and 14. square integer; for an integer that is not square, determine without a calculator the two integers between which its square root lies and explain why. Constructs □ Procedural Skills, Conceptual Understanding, **Problem Solving**

CAHSEE test questions in this standard require students to demonstrate a conceptual understanding of powers and roots and their inverse relationship. The idea of mathematical inverse is a key precursor for algebraic reasoning, and students should understand that taking a root is the inverse operation of raising a number or expression to a power. For example, students should know that $\sqrt{9^2} = 9$. Students will not be required to calculate the square root for a number that is not a perfect square, but students should be able to approximate the value of the square root of an integer that is not a perfect square.

Sample Test Question

The sample question asks students to find an approximation of the square root of 150, an integer that is not a perfect square. The correct answer is choice C. Students should recognize that they must first determine both the closest perfect square greater than the given integer and the closest perfect square less than the integer. This task may involve some trial and error multiplication along with the application of knowledge of squares and square roots. Since the number 150 is not a perfect square, students may recall or calculate that 144 is a perfect square and that 169 is the next perfect square. Since 144 is close to but less than 150 and 169 is close to but greater than 150, the square root of 150 must lie between those two perfect squares.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors misplace 150 between other numbers and may be selected by students who do not understand the concept of square root or who may incorrectly calculate the square of one of the numbers.

Strand	Number Sense (NS)	If x	x = 3, what is the value of x?	
Standard 7NS2.5 Understand the meaning of the absolute value of a number; interpret the absolute value as the distance of the number from zero on a number line; and determine the absolute value of real numbers.		A B C D	-3 or 0 -3 or 3 0 or 3 -9 or 9	M02122
Constructs	Procedural Skills, Conceptual Understanding, Problem Solving			

CAHSEE test questions in this standard require students to demonstrate a conceptual understanding of absolute value and its meaning as represented on a number line. Relating absolute value to distance on the number line may help students understand the concept: Distance cannot be negative, but there will always be two numbers on the number line that are the same distance from zero. Questions may require students to find the absolute value after performing a basic computation.

Sample Test Question

The test question asks students to determine the possible values for x in a simple absolute value equation. The correct answer is choice B. Students should recognize that since the absolute value of a number is the distance on a number line from that number to zero in either direction, all absolute values are positive numbers: |x| = x and |-x| = x. In the test question, if |x| = 3, then x = -3 or x = 3, since |3| = 3 and |-3| = 3.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors represent misunderstandings of the concept and notation for absolute value. Distractors A and C incorrectly equate the absolute value of 3 with 0 and offer either a negative or a positive value of 3. Distractor D correctly provides both a negative and a positive value but inappropriately associates the absolute value of 3 with the square of 3.

Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability Strand

To demonstrate knowledge and skills in the Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability strand, students must understand the fundamental concepts involved in data collection, display, and analysis. Students will be asked to determine ways to collect, organize, and display relevant data to answer questions, formulate questions that can be addressed with data, select and use appropriate statistical methods to analyze data, and develop and evaluate inferences and predictions that are based on data. In addition, students are required to understand and apply the basic concepts of probability.

Specifically, the standards in the Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability strand include the following knowledge and skills:

- I finding measures of central tendency to characterize data
- interpreting and evaluating conclusions based on data
- organizing and representing possible outcomes for events and expressing theoretical probabilities
- representing probabilities as ratios, proportions, and percents
- understanding the numerical continuum of probability between impossibility (0) and certainty (1)
- recognizing the difference between independent and dependent events
- displaying data appropriately, including both one- and two-variable data sets.

The seven California academic content standards covered by the CAHSEE Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability strand are discussed in the following pages.

Strand	Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability (PS)	Rico's first three test scores in biology we 65, 90, and 73. What was his mean score? A 65	
Standard Compute the mode of data	6PS1.1 range mean, median, and sets.	B 73 C 76 D 90	
Constructs□	Procedural Skills, Conceptual Understanding		M02247

One of the major objectives of the Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability strand is to give students tools to help them understand the uses and misuses of statistics. This CAHSEE content standard has three components: computation of the mean, computation of the median, and recognition of the mode of data sets. Statistical measures of central tendency represent important methods for summarizing and comparing single-variable data sets. Students should understand the significance of each as a measure of central tendency as well as the differences among these measures. For this standard, students will not be asked to find the median of an even number of values.

Students should know that:

- □ the median is the middle score of an ordered set of numbers, where half the scores are greater than the median and half are less
- □ the mode is the number which appears more frequently
- □ the mean is most affected by extreme values.

Sample Test Question

The sample question gives the data set (65, 90, 73) and asks students to compute the mean. The correct answer is choice C. Students should recognize that they should compute the mean by first finding the sum (65+90+73=228) and then dividing by $3(228 \div 3=76)$.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors represent conceptual misunderstandings about measures of central tendency. Distractor A is the minimum of the data set; distractor B is the median of the data set; and distractor D is the maximum of the data set.

^{*} The CAHSEE test blueprint does not include the crossed-out portion of this content standard.

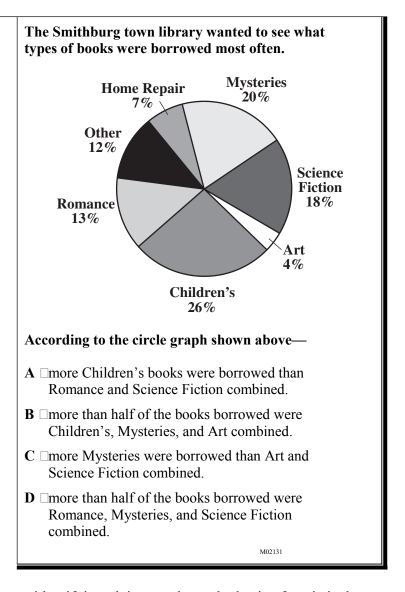
Strand \square Statistics,

Data Analysis, and Probability (PS)

Standard 6PS2.5
Identify claims based on statistical data and, in simple cases, evaluate the validity of the claims.

Constructs ☐ Conceptual

Understanding, Problem Solving



This content standard has two components: identifying claims made on the basis of statistical data and evaluating the validity of the claims based on statistical data. Because students should be able to understand statistical claims as well as they understand purely verbal arguments for or against a position, students should develop skills to evaluate the quality of data and conclusions based on data. CAHSEE test questions for this standard may ask students to identify a valid claim based on data or to recognize a question for which the data could be used to provide an answer.

Sample Test Question

The sample test question presents data about types of books in a library using a circle graph. The answer choices represent four possible statements about the graph. The correct answer is D. Students should be able to add the percentages from Romance, Mysteries, and Science Fiction and get 51%, thus making option D the correct one.

Analysis of Distractors

The statement given in distractor A is incorrect because the percentage of Children's books (26) is not more than the sum of the percentages of Romance and Science Fiction (13+18). The statement given in distractor B is incorrect because the sum of the percentages of Children's, Mysteries, and Art (26+20+4) is exactly 50 which is not more than half. The statement given in distractor C is incorrect because the percentage of Mysteries (20) is not more than the sum of the percentages of Art and Science Fiction (4+18).

Strand Statistics,

Data Analysis, and Probability (PS)

Standard 6PS3.1

Represent all possible outcomes for compound events in an organized way (e.g., tables, grids, tree diagrams) and express the theoretical probability of each outcome.

Constructs Conceptual

Understanding, Problem Solving To get home from work, Curtis must get on one of the three highways that leave the city. He then has a choice of four different roads that lead to his house. In the diagram below, each letter represents a highway, and each number represents a road.

	Highway		
	A	В	C
1	A 1	B 1	C 1
2 Road	A 2	B 2	C 2
3	A 3	В 3	С3
4	A 4	B 4	C 4
	3	A 1 A1 2 A2 3 A3	A B 1 A1 B1 2 A2 B2 3 A3 B3

If Curtis randomly chooses a route to travel home, what is the probability that he will travel Highway B and Road 4?

$$\mathbf{A} \quad \frac{1}{16}$$

$$\mathbf{B} \quad \frac{1}{12}$$

$$\mathbf{C} = \frac{1}{2}$$

D
$$\frac{1}{3}$$

M02512

Organizing structures, such as sample spaces, diagrams, and tables, are useful for the representations of probabilities, and the ability to create a structured representation of a complex situation is an important reasoning tool. To demonstrate achievement in this standard, students must recognize appropriate and correct representations of events. From the correct representation, they must derive an understanding of the relationship between the frequency of the outcome and its numerical expression. They should be able to determine a theoretical probability of any particular outcome based on a correct representation.

Sample Test Question

The sample question includes a diagram that represents combinations of route choices (3 highways, 4 roads) and asks students to determine the probability of an individual randomly taking a given route. The correct answer is choice B. Students should recognize that if there are n possible outcomes for an independent event and r possible outcomes for another independent event, there are nr outcomes for the two events together. In other words, if there are n ways to do one thing and r ways to do another thing, there are nr ways to do the two things together. Thus, three highways times four roads equals 12 routes, and the probability of selecting any individual

route is
$$\frac{1}{12}$$
.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors represent misunderstandings of the ways to determine probability and/or failure to complete the steps in the problem. Distractor A represents an inappropriate squaring of the probability of taking one road. Distractor C represents the probability of taking any one road, and distractor D represents the probability of taking any one highway.

Strand Statistics,

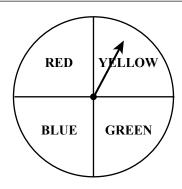
Data Analysis, and Probability (PS)

Standard 6PS3.3

Represent probabilities as ratios, proportions, decimals between 0 and 1, and percentages between 0 and 100 and verify that the probabilities computed are reasonable; know that if *P* is the probability of an event, 1-*P* is the probability of an event not occurring.

Constructs Conceptual

Understanding, Problem Solving



The spinner shown above is fair. What is the probability that the spinner will <u>not</u> stop on red if you spin it one time?

- $\mathbf{A} = \frac{1}{2}$
- $\mathbf{B} \quad \frac{1}{3}$
- $C = \frac{3}{4}$
- **D** $\frac{4}{3}$

M00094

All students should understand that mathematical probability is used to predict what might happen in the future and that probabilities are ratios determined by considering the likely results or outcomes of events. CAHSEE test questions for this standard cover all of the components of the standard. Students are expected to:

- \square know that probabilities are ratios that can be expressed as fractions, decimals, or \square percentages \square
- □ compute the probability of a described event
- □ verify the reasonableness of a computed probability
- □ compute the probability that an event will not occur.

Sample Test Question

The sample question asks students to determine the probability that an event will not occur—that a spinner will not land on one quadrant of a circle. The correct answer is choice C. Students should recognize that because the four regions covered by the spinner have equal areas, the

probability of the spinner stopping on any one region is $\frac{1}{4}$. Therefore, the probability that it will

not stop on a given region is $1 - \frac{1}{4}$, or $\frac{3}{4}$.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors represent misconceptions about the probability of an event not occurring. Distractor A gives the probability that the event will occur; this value has not been subtracted from 1. Distractor B represents a misconception that only three quadrants should be used to calculate the probability and gives the probability of the spinner landing on one of the three. Distractor D represents either of two possibilities: using a fraction to represent the total number of quadrants divided by three quadrants (all but red) or obtaining the correct answer but then inverting it.

Strand Statistics,

Data Analysis, and Probability (PS)

Standard 6PS3.5 Understand the difference between independent and dependent events.

Construct ☐ Conceptual

Understanding

A bag contained four green balls, three red balls, and two purple balls. Jason removed one purple ball from the bag and did <u>not</u> put the ball back in the bag. He then randomly removed another ball from the bag. What is the probability that the second ball Jason removed was purple?

A
$$\frac{1}{36}$$

B
$$\frac{1}{9}$$

$$\mathbf{C} = \frac{1}{8}$$

$$\mathbf{D} = \frac{2}{6}$$

M03097

Discerning the difference between dependent and independent events is important in evaluating probabilistic outcomes. CAHSEE test questions in this content standard require students to understand that events are independent of each other if the occurrence or non-occurrence of one event does not affect the probability of the occurrence or non-occurrence of another event. Similarly, students must recognize that events are dependent if the occurrence or non-occurrence of one event affects the probability of the occurrence or non-occurrence of another event. Computation may be required to determine the result of the independent or dependent events.

Sample Test Question

The test question asks students to demonstrate understanding of the probability of the occurrence of a dependent event. The correct answer is choice C. Students should determine that initially the bag contains 4 green, 3 red, and 2 purple balls, for a total of 9 balls. When 1 purple ball is removed and not replaced, the bag contains a total of 8 balls. Since there are now 8 balls with

only 1 being purple, the probability of randomly choosing the purple ball is $\frac{1}{8}$.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors offer misunderstandings of the underlying concepts in the problem. Distractor A results from the inappropriate multiplication of $\frac{2}{9} \times \frac{1}{8}$, which is the probability of randomly choosing both purple balls. Distractor B results from computing the probability of choosing 1 purple ball from 9 balls. Distractor D results from the addition of two probabilities for

independent events: $\frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{9}$.

Strand \square Statistics,

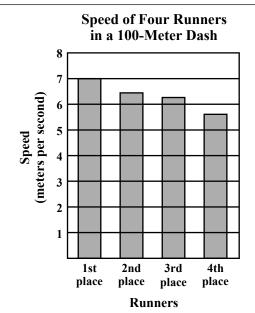
Data Analysis, and Probability (PS)

Standard 7PS1.1

Know various forms of display for data sets, including a stem-and-leaf plot or box-and-whisker plot; use the forms to display a single set of data or to compare two sets of data.*

Constructs ☐ Procedural Skills,

Conceptual Understanding, Problem Solving



Based on the bar graph shown above, which of the following conclusions is true?

- **A** Everyone ran faster than 6 meters per second.
- **B** The best possible rate for the 100-meter dash is 5 meters per second.
- C The first-place runner was four times as fast as the fourth-place runner.
- **D** The second-place and third-place runners were closest in time to one another.

M00279

Large data sets are difficult to grasp mentally without an accessible visual representation. CAHSEE test questions in this standard require students to recognize and interpret various forms of display and to compare two sets of data displayed the same way. The forms of display for single-variable data sets assessed on the CAHSEE include bar graphs, line graphs, pictographs, and circle graphs. CAHSEE test questions for this standard may also require students to select an appropriate type of data display.

^{*} The CAHSEE test blueprint does not include the crossed-out portion of this content standard.

Sample Test Question

The sample question presents a bar graph that shows the average speed, in meters per second (m/s), of four runners over a 100-meter distance and asks students to identify an accurate conclusion supported by the data. The correct answer is choice D. Students should use the graph to determine the speed of each runner and then evaluate and compare the four answer choices. From the graph, the first-place runner's speed was approximately 7 m/s; the second-place runner's speed was approximately 6.5 m/s; the third-place runner's speed was approximately 6.3 m/s; and the fourth-place runner's speed was approximately 5.6 m/s. This data display shows that the second-place and third-place runners' times were closest together.

Analysis of Distractors

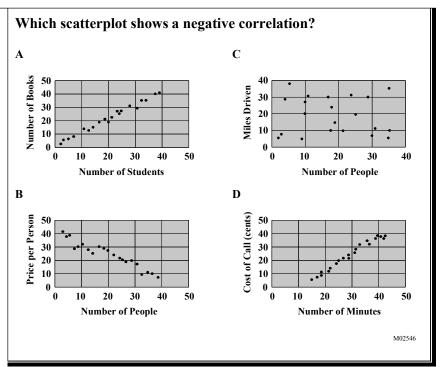
Students should recognize that distractor A is incorrect because the fourth-place runner ran at approximately 5.6 m/s; distractor B is incorrect because all four runners ran faster than 5 m/s; and distractor C is incorrect because 7 m/s is not four times faster than 5.6 m/s.

Strand Statistics, Data
Analysis, and
Probability (PS)

Standard 7PS1.2
Represent two numerical variables on a scatterplot and informally describe how the data points are distributed and any apparent relationship that exists between the two variables (e.g., between time spent on homework and grade level).

Constructs

Conceptual Understanding, Problem Solving



The identification of patterns and relationships, including clustering and trends, as well as the concept of correlation (positive, negative, or none) are significant aspects of using data. Students should understand correlation as a measure of the relationship between two variables, with negative correlation as the association of an increase in the value of one variable with a decrease in the corresponding value of the second variable. Students should also recognize that positive correlation is the association of an increase in the value of one variable with an increase in the corresponding value of the second variable.

CAHSEE test questions for this standard address the following components of the standard:

- representing two variables on a scatterplot
- determining the distribution of the variables
- recognizing the apparent relationships between the two variables represented.

Sample Test Question

The sample item requires students to identify the graph that illustrates a negative correlation. The correct answer is choice B: As the price per person increases, the number of people decreases, indicating a negative correlation.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors are scatterplots that show either a positive correlation or no correlation. Distractor A represents a positive correlation: As the number of books increases, the number of students increases. Distractor C indicates no correlation: As miles driven increases, the number of people both increases and decreases over the range of miles driven. Distractor D indicates a positive correlation: As the cost of one call increases, the number of minutes increases (at or greater than values of 15).

Algebra and Functions Strand □

The Algebra and Functions strand is most closely associated with the representation of quantitative relationships, such as functions, equations, graphs, geometric diagrams, and verbal expressions. As students increase their mathematical knowledge and skills, they work frequently with algebraic symbols, expressions with variables, and graphical representations. It is essential that students develop an understanding of several different meanings and uses of variables through multiple representations. Everyday experiences with linear functions should aid in the development of the concepts of proportionality and the ability to discriminate between linear and nonlinear functions. Students must also learn to recognize and generate equivalent expressions, solve linear equations, and effectively use formulas.

To demonstrate achievement in this strand, students will be asked to:

- \sqcap work with patterns and relationships
- represent, analyze, and generalize a variety of patterns with tables, graphs, and symbolic rules
- \sqcap compare different forms of representations
- □ identify functions
- □ use algebraic expressions
- \sqcap solve linear equations.

The use of mathematical models to represent and understand quantitative relationships is developed by modeling and solving contextualized problems. The analysis of change in various contexts involves tools such as graphs to analyze the nature of changes in quantities in linear relationships.

The ten California academic content standards covered by the CAHSEE Algebra and Functions strand are discussed in the following pages.

Strand
Algebra and
Functions (AF)

Standard 7AF1.1

Use variables and appropriate operations to write an expression, an equation, an inequality, or a system of equations or inequalities that represents a verbal description (e.g., three less than a number, half as large as area A).

Constructs ☐ Procedural Skills,

Conceptual Understanding, Problem Solving Which of the following inequalities represents the statement, "A number, x, decreased by 13 is less than or equal to 39"?

A
$$13 - x \ge 39$$

B
$$13 - x < 39$$

C
$$x - 13 \le 39$$

D
$$x - 13 < 39$$

M03049

Translating verbal descriptions into mathematical expressions is essential in solving real-world problems. CAHSEE test questions in this standard require students to translate between verbal descriptions and mathematical equivalents. Students should be able to use variables and appropriate operations to write or identify an expression, an equation, a system of equations or inequality to solve a problem.

Sample Test Question

The sample question requires students to translate a verbal description of an inequality into a mathematical expression. The correct answer is choice C. Students should recognize that "a number, x, decreased by 13" is represented as x-13 and that "less than or equal to 39" is represented by < 39. Putting both parts of the statement together, x-13 < 39.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors offer expressions that use the same values found in the problem but represent verbal expressions not given in the stem. Distractor A represents "13 decreased by a number, x," and also "greater than or equal to 39." Distractor B uses the correct inequality notation but, like Distractor A, represents "13 decreased by a number, x." Distractor D presents the appropriate expression for "a number, x, decreased by 13" but represents "less than 39," rather than "less than or equal to 39."

Strand	Algebra and Functions (AF)	If $h = 3$ and $k = 4$, then $\frac{hk + 4}{2} - 2 =$
•	7AF1.2 ect order of evaluate algebraic uch as $3(2x+5)^2$	A 6 B 7 C 8 D 10
Constructs	Procedural Skills, Conceptual Understanding	M00052

CAHSEE test questions for this standard require students to select and use the correct order of arithmetic operations in evaluating expressions (parentheses, exponents, multiplication, division, addition, subtraction). Students may also be required to evaluate expressions that include the distributive property and other basic properties of real numbers.

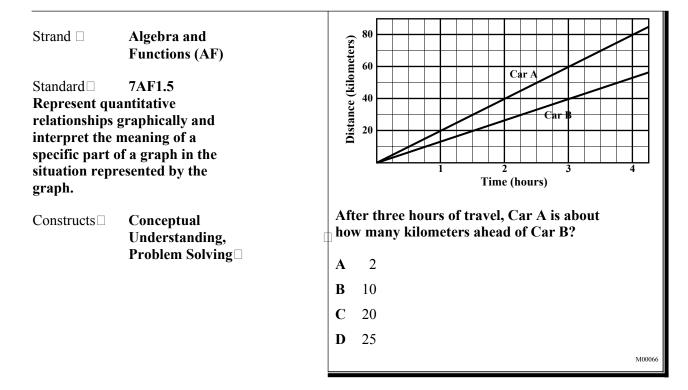
Sample Test Question

The sample question asks students to evaluate an expression using the correct order of operations. The correct answer is choice A. Students should first substitute 3 and 4 for h and k, then multiply h by k, add 4, divide by 2, and then subtract 2:

$$\frac{(3)(4)+4}{2}-2=\frac{12+4}{2}-2=\frac{16}{2}-2=8-2=6.$$

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors offer solutions that result from performing operations in improper order. Distractor B is obtained by dividing by 2 before evaluating the numerator. Distractor C is obtained by dividing the product of 3 and 4 by 2 before evaluating the numerator. Distractor D is obtained by adding 4 before multiplying 3 by 4.



CAHSEE test questions for this standard focus on either of its two main components. The first component requires the selection and execution of a graph that accurately and appropriately represents a quantitative relationship. The second component requires the interpretation and/or alternate representation of information presented in graphical form.

Sample Test Question

The sample question presents a graph showing distance traveled over time for two cars, A and B, and asks for a specific interpretation of the information shown in the graph. The correct answer is choice C. Students should recognize that distance, in kilometers, is recorded on the y-axis, and time, in hours, is recorded on the x-axis. Three hours on the time scale corresponds to 60 kilometers for Car A, and three hours corresponds to 40 kilometers for Car B. The number of kilometers that Car A is ahead of Car B after 3 hours is represented by the difference between the distance traveled by Car A and the distance traveled by Car B in the same time (60 kilometers -40 kilometers =20 kilometers).

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors represent misreadings of the graph. Distractor A gives the number of hours that Car A has traveled when it has gone 40 kilometers, the distance Car B traveled in 3 hours. Distractor B represents an error in reading the scale of the graph, assuming that the increments have a value of 10. Distractor D represents use of the approximate difference in distance at 4 hours, rather than 3.

Strand \square	Algebra and Functions (AF)	x^3y	3 = 9xy	
Standard 7AF2.1 Interpret positive whole-number powers as repeated multiplication and negative whole-number powers as repeated division or multiplication by the multiplicative inverse. Simplify and evaluate expressions that include exponents.			$(xy)^6$ $3xy$ $xxxyyy$	
				M02879
Constructs□	Procedural Skills, Conceptual Understanding			

This standard has four main components: the concept of positive whole-number powers as repeated multiplication, the concept of negative whole-number powers as repeated division, multiplication by the multiplicative inverse, and simplification and evaluation of expressions that include exponents. The first two components of this standard are assessed in the related Number Sense standards 2.1 and 2.3. CAHSEE test questions that assess student achievement in this standard may require students to evaluate monomial expressions. Other questions for this standard may require students to demonstrate an understanding of the multiplicative inverse.

Sample Test Question

The sample question asks students to interpret as repeated multiplication the algebraic expression for x raised to the third power multiplied by y raised to the third power. The correct answer is choice D. Students should recognize that $x^3 = x \cdot x \cdot x$ and that $y^3 = y \cdot y \cdot y$, so that $x^3y^3 = x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot y \cdot y \cdot y \cdot y = xxxyyy$.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors represent misunderstandings of the meaning of the exponents and/or the appropriate operation. Distractor A multiplies the exponents and uses the product as a coefficient. Distractor B adds the exponents, as would be appropriate for like, rather than unlike, variables. In distractor C, the value of the exponents has been moved to serve as a coefficient.

Simplify the expression shown below. Strand Algebra and **Functions (AF)** $(6a^4bc)(7ab^3c)$ Standard 7AF2.2 **A** $13a^4b^3c$ Multiply and divide monomials; extend the process of taking powers and extracting roots to monomials when the latter results in a monomial with an integer $42a^5b^4c^2$ exponent. M02109 Construct □ Conceptual Understanding

CAHSEE test questions in this standard require students to multiply and divide monomials, expand powers, and find roots for monomials when the results are integer exponents. Items may also include combinations of multiplying and dividing monomials. Students should be comfortable with the rules for multiplying and dividing exponential expressions with the same base.

Sample Test Question

The sample question requires students to demonstrate knowledge of the rules for multiplying monomials, multiplying the numeric values, and adding the exponents. The correct answer is choice D, as $6 \times 7 = 42$ and the product of a^4 and a is a^5 ; the product of b and b^3 is b^4 ; and the product of b and b is b^4 ; and the product of b and b is b.

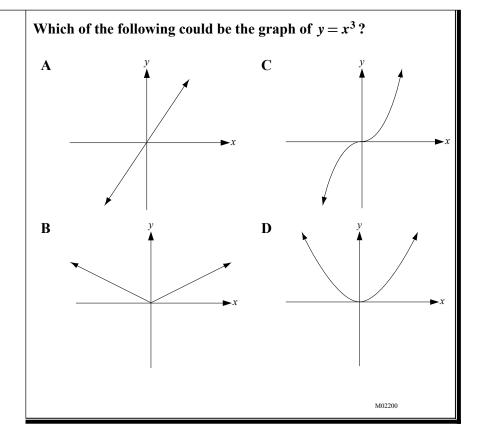
Analysis of Distractors

The distractors represent errors in multiplying the numeric values and/or the exponents. Distractor A represents the incorrect operation of adding, rather than multiplying, 6 and 7 and also the failure to use a as a^1 , b as b^1 , and c as c^1 when adding the values of the exponents. Distractor B represents the incorrect value obtained by adding 6 and 7 combined with the correct values for the exponents. Distractor C represents the correct multiplication of the numeric values but, like Distractor A, has the incorrect multiplication of the exponents a, b, and c.

Strand Algebra and Functions (AF)

Standard 7AF3.1 Graph functions of the form $y = nx^2$ and $y = nx^3$ and use in solving problems.

Construct Conceptual Understanding



CAHSEE test questions in this standard require knowledge of graphing functions, as demonstrated by selecting the appropriate graph of a given function or by selecting the appropriate function for a given graph. Some questions may also require knowledge of function graphing to solve problems. As part of their foundational understanding of functions, students should be able to predict the shape of a graph based on the characteristics of the given function (e.g., linear, quadratic).

Sample Test Question

The sample question asks students to identify which graph could represent the function $y = x^3$. The correct answer is choice C. Students should understand the basic concepts underlying the problem—that cubic functions are nonlinear and that negative values for x correspond to negative values for y and positive values for x correspond to positive values for y.

Analysis of Distractors

Distractor A is a graph of a linear, rather than nonlinear, function. Distractor B is an absolute value function. Distractor D represents a quadratic function in which negative values for x correspond to positive values for y.

Strand

Algebra and Functions (AF)

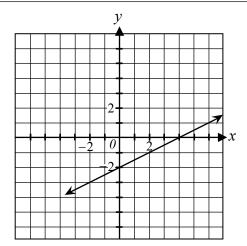
Standard

7AF3.3

Graph linear functions, noting that the vertical change (change in y-value) per unit of horizontal change (change in x-value) is always the same and know that the ratio ("rise over run") is called the slope of a graph.

Constructs

Procedural Skills, Conceptual Understanding



What is the slope of the line shown in the graph above?

$$\mathbf{A}$$
 -2

$$\mathbf{B} = -\frac{1}{2}$$

$$\mathbf{C} = \frac{1}{2}$$

M02556

Students should understand that linear functions can model many real-world phenomena and that the rate of change in a function is shown by the slope of the graph of the function. A conceptual understanding of slope can be a key element in students' development of proportional reasoning skills. CAHSEE test questions for this standard may focus on either of its two main components. The first component is graphing linear functions on the *xy* coordinate system. The second is the identification of the slope in quantitative terms from a given linear function or the selection of a given slope from a numerical value, from a line shown on a graph, or from two pairs of coordinate points.

Sample Test Question

The sample question shows a graph of a linear function and asks students to determine the slope represented by a line that crosses the y-axis at the point (0, -2) and the x-axis at the point (4, 0). The correct answer is choice C. Students should understand slope as the change in y divided by the change in x and/or as the ratio "rise over run." In this problem, the change in the y-value is

obtained by subtracting -2 from 0, and the change in the *x*-value is obtained by subtracting 0 from 4, and thus $\frac{\text{Change in } y}{\text{Change in } x} = \frac{0 - (-2)}{4 - 0} = \frac{2}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$.

Analysis of Distractors

Distractor A is simply the value of the *y*-intercept and represents a misunderstanding of the concept of slope. Distractor B represents an error in the subtraction of 0-(-2) or 4-0. Distractor D represents the error of dividing the change in *x* by the change in *y*.

Strand Algebra and Functions (AF)

Standard 7AF3.4

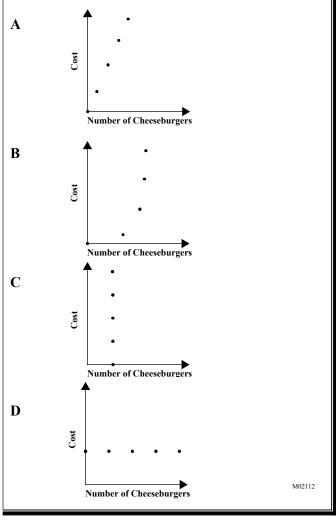
Plot the values of quantities whose ratios are always the same (e.g., cost to the number of an item, feet to inches, circumference to diameter of a circle). Fit a line to the plot and understand that the slope of a line equals the quantities.

Construct Conceptual Understanding

Best Burger sells cheeseburgers for \$1.75 each. Part of a table representing the number of cheeseburgers purchased and their cost is shown below.

Number Purchased	Cost (\$)
0	0
1	1.75
2	3.50
3	5.25
4	7.00

Which of the following is a portion of the graph of the data in the table?



Graphing direct variation is a powerful way to comprehend and express proportional reasoning. CAHSEE test questions within this standard focus on either of its two main components, both of which require students to understand the relationship between the graphical presentation of data

and the symbolic representation of data. The first component involves the identification of the correct graph. The second component involves the determination of the slope of a direct variation and the interpretation of the meaning of the slope as a constant ratio between the two quantities in the variation.

Sample Test Question

The sample question presents a table of values showing the number of cheeseburgers purchased and the corresponding cost for each additional cheeseburger. Students are asked to select the appropriate graph to represent the data. The correct answer is choice A. Students must understand the relationship between the number of cheeseburgers on the *x*-axis and the corresponding cost for each additional cheeseburger on the *y*-axis. The table shows that each additional cheeseburger purchased increases the total cost by \$1.75. In other words, students should recognize that the relationship is linear: As the value on the *x*-axis increases by 1, the value on the *y*-axis increases correspondingly by \$1.75.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors are graphs that incorrectly represent the function in the table. Distractor B shows a nonlinear relationship between number and cost. Cost increases exponentially, so that following the purchase of cheeseburger number three, it has risen higher than the \$7.00 indicated in the table. Distractor C is not a function and indicates that there is more than one possible price for the given number of cheeseburgers. Distractor D represents the purchase of additional cheeseburgers without any cost increase beyond the cost of the first cheeseburger.

Strand Algebra and Functions (AF)

Standard 7AF4.1
Solve two-step linear equations and inequalities in one variable over the rational numbers, interpret the solution or solutions in the context from which they arose, and verify the

Constructs Procedural Skills,

reasonableness of the results.

Conceptual Understanding, Problem Solving In the inequality $2x + \$10,000 \ge \$70,000$, x represents the salary of an employee in a school district. Which phrase most accurately describes the employee's salary?

- **A** At least \$30,000
- **B** At most \$30,000
- C Less than \$30,000
- **D** More than \$30,000

M02621

CAHSEE test questions for this standard may focus on any of its components, including solving two-step linear equations, solving two-step inequalities, interpreting the solutions of equations or inequalities, and judging the reasonableness of the solutions of equations or inequalities.

Sample Test Question

The sample test question presents an inequality that represents an employee's salary and asks students to interpret the solution of the inequality in terms of this context. The correct answer is choice A. Students should recognize that the inequality has the solution $x \ge $30,000$ and that the correct way to state this inequality is "at least \$30,000."

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors offer incorrect solutions for the inequality and/or ways to express the mathematical notation. Distractor B represents $x \le \$30,000$ which is stated as "at most \$30,000." Distractor C represents x < \$30,000, or "less than \$30,000." Distractor D represents x > \$30,000, or "more than \$30,000."

Strand	Algebra and Functions (AF)	Stephanie is reading a 456-page book. During the past 7 days she has read 168 pages. If she continues reading at the same
Standard	7AF4.2	rate, how many more days will it take her to
Solve multistep problems		complete the book?
involving rate, average speed, distance, and time or a direct variation.		
		A 12
		B 14
$Constructs \square$	Procedural Skills,	C 19
	Conceptual Understanding,	D 24
	Problem Solving	M00380

Problem solving is a significant higher-order thinking skill that enables students to apply their mathematical knowledge to real-world situations. CAHSEE test questions for this standard may require students either to solve a specific problem or to determine the equation that should be used to solve the problem. Test questions may also require students to understand the concept of direct variation and to recognize that direct variation may also be expressed as a linear function. This standard is closely related to Algebra I standard 5.0, which requires students to solve a variety of problems such as rate, work, and percent mixture using algebraic methods.

Sample Test Question

The sample question provides a ratio between pages read and days and asks students to find the number of additional days it will take to read the 456-page book. The correct answer choice is A. One method is to subtract 168 from 456 to obtain the number of pages left. Then set up the

proportion
$$\frac{168}{7} = \frac{288}{x}$$
 and solve for x.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors offer solutions that use the values of the problem incorrectly and thus reflect a misunderstanding of the concept. Distractor B represents the number of pages read per day assuming 168 pages is the amount of pages left and can be found by $\frac{168}{12}$. Distractor C represents how many total days are needed to read the book and can be found from the proportion $\frac{168}{7} = \frac{456}{x}$. Distractor D represents the number of pages read per day and can be found by $\frac{456}{19}$.

Measurement and Geometry Strand □

As students relate their experiences from earlier classroom instruction in measurement and geometry to situations in their everyday lives, their knowledge and ability to apply this knowledge increase in depth and sophistication. To demonstrate understanding in this CAHSEE strand, students must be able to select and use appropriate units; estimate and calculate measurements for the length, area, and volume of geometric figures; understand scaling in scale drawings and how changes in linear dimension affect area and volume; and solve problems involving dimensional analysis and conversion from one unit to another.

To demonstrate achievement of the knowledge and skills in the measurement component of this strand, students should be able to use both metric and customary units of measurement for the following:

•	determining the relationship between different units within the same system and \Box
	converting from one unit to another within and between measurement systems \square
•	using scale drawings and models to determine measurements of the original
• 🗌	solving problems involving dimensional analysis for rates and other compound units
• 🗌	relating the effect of changing the choice of a linear unit on the related square and cubic
	units for area and volume, respectively.

The geometry component of this strand includes computing the perimeter, area, and volume of the most common 2- and 3-dimensional figures, and using these common figures to estimate or compute the area of more complex objects.

To demonstrate acquisition of the knowledge and skills in the geometry component of the strand, students should be able to:

- describe, classify, and understand relationships between length, area, and volume among types of 2- and 3-dimensional objects
 use coordinate geometry to represent and examine the properties of figures and their
- images under translation and reflection

 □ understand and use the Pythagorean theorem
- recognize and demonstrate understanding of congruence in terms of the sides and angles of 2-dimensional figures.

When CAHSEE items require students to use formulas, the formulas are provided within parentheses in the stem. All formulas the students may use, including the estimated value of π will be provided *except* for the following:

- perimeter of a polygon (sum of the sides)
- circumference of a circle $(C = 2\pi r, C = \pi d)$
- area of a triangle $\left(A = \frac{1}{2}bh\right)$
- area of a parallelogram (including rectangles and squares, base × height)
- volume of a rectangular prism (length × width × height).

The formula for finding the area of a nontraditional figure such as a rhombus will be provided.

In estimation problems, the approximate value of π that should be used to obtain the correct answer will be provided as part of the stem. Otherwise, the answer will include π (e.g., $12 + 3\pi$).

The ten California academic content standards covered by the CAHSEE Measurement and Geometry strand are discussed in the following pages.

Strand Measurement and Geometry (MG)

Standard 7MG1.1 Compare weights, capacities, geometric measures, times, and temperatures within and between measurement systems (e.g., miles per hour and feet per second, cubic inches to cubic centimeters).

Constructs Procedural Skills,
Conceptual
Understanding

One millimeter is—

A $\frac{1}{1000}$ of a meter.

 $\mathbf{B} = \frac{1}{100}$ of a meter.

C 100 meters.

D 1000 meters.

M00276

Comparing units and computing the effect of changing units are essential skills for acquiring knowledge in mathematics and science disciplines. CAHSEE test questions for this standard require students to convert between two units of measurement within the same system or between two different systems of measurement. Conversion formulas are provided for test questions that require the student to convert between less commonly used units (such as pints to gallons), systems of measurement, square units, and cubic units.

Sample Test Question

The sample test question requires students to convert from millimeters to meters. The correct answer is choice A. Students must know that to make this conversion, 1 millimeter is equal to $\frac{1}{1000}$ of a meter.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors represent error in performing the conversions. Distractor B represents students making the mistake of using $\frac{1}{100}$ as the conversion factor. Distractor C represents students making the mistake of using 100 as the conversion factor. Distractor D represents students making the mistake of using 1000 as the conversion factor.

Strand

Measurement and Geometry (MG)

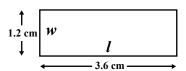
Standard

7MG1.2

Construct and read drawings and models made to scale.

Constructs

Conceptual Understanding, Problem Solving The actual width (w) of a rectangle is 18 centimeters (cm). Use the scale drawing of the rectangle to find the actual length (*l*).



A 6 cm

B 24 cm

C 36 cm

D 54 cm

M02087

The ability to move back and forth between a scale drawing or model and a real object is essential for understanding representation as well as proportional reasoning. Test questions on the CAHSEE focus on the second component of this standard, reading scale drawings and models. Students will be asked to read and interpret drawings and scale models. Students may also be asked to apply given measurements to determine the scale of a figure.

Sample Test Question

The sample test question presents a scale drawing of a rectangle with width 1.2 cm and length 3.6 cm and gives the actual value of the width as 18 cm. The correct answer is choice D. Students must recognize that the ratio between the width of the scale drawing and the actual width of the rectangle is the same as that between the length of the scale drawing and the actual length. Students may use a variety of approaches to solve the problem, including setting up a proportion similar to $\frac{1.2}{18} = \frac{3.6}{l}$ and solving for l.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors represent errors in using the values presented in the stem. Distractor A results \Box from use of an incorrect relationship between the parts of the proportion: \Box $(18 \div 3.6) \times 1.2 = 6$. Distractor B results from subtracting the width from the length and \Box multiplying by 10. Distractor C is 3.6×10 , rather than 3.6×15 .

Strand Measurement and Geometry (MG)

Standard 7MG1.3
Use measures expressed as rates (e.g., speed, density) and measures expressed as products (e.g., person-days) to solve problems; check the units of the solutions; and use dimensional analysis to check the reasonableness of the answer.

Constructs ☐ **Procedural Skills**,

Conceptual Understanding, Problem Solving Sixty miles per hour is the same rate as which of the following?

- A 1 mile per minute
- **B** 1 mile per second
- C 6 miles per minute
- **D** 360 miles per second

M02473

Dimensional analysis is a critical skill in physical science, engineering, and the social sciences. Students should be familiar with the rates named in the standard as well as other commonly used measures (e.g., kilowatt-hours, foot-pounds, acre-feet). Test questions on the CAHSEE for this standard focus on all three of its components: measures as rates, measures as products, and reasonableness of results.

Sample Test Question

The sample question requires the student to find an equivalent rate to 60 miles per hour. The correct answer is choice A. Students may reason that another way to express the given rate is 60 miles per 60 minutes, since 1 hour is equivalent to 60 minutes. The expression is 60 miles/hour is equivalent to 60 miles/60 minutes and that since $60 \div 60 = 1$, the rate is equivalent to 1 mile/minute. Students should also be encouraged to evaluate the answer choices in the question for their reasonableness as a restatement of this real-world rate.

Analysis of Distractors

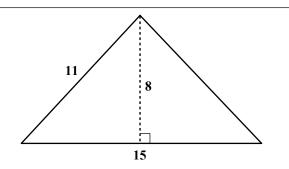
The distractors represent misunderstandings of the required calculations. Distractor B results from incorrectly equating 1 hour to 60 seconds. Distractor C is obtained by dividing 60 miles per hour by 10, rather than by 60. Distractor D is obtained by multiplying 60 by 6.

Strand Measurement and Geometry (MG)

Standard 7MG2.1
Use formulas routinely for finding the perimeter and area of basic two-dimensional figures and the surface area and volume of basic three-dimensional figures, including rectangles, parallelograms, trapezoids, squares, triangles, circles, prisms, and cylinders.

Constructs Procedural Skills, Conceptual

Understanding



What is the area of the triangle shown above?

A 44 square units

B 60 square units

C 88 square units

D 120 square units

M00101

All students should know how to compute the area and volume of basic figures and also how to apply basic formulas in many areas to solve problems. This standard requires students to find the perimeter and area of 2-dimensional figures and the surface area and volume of 3-dimensional figures. The figures tested on the CAHSEE include parallelograms, trapezoids, triangles, circles, prisms, and cylinders. Students are required to know the following formulas:

- perimeter of a polygon (sum of the sides)
- circumference of a circle $(C = 2\pi r, C = \pi d)$
- area of a triangle $\left(A = \frac{1}{2}bh\right)$
- area of a parallelogram (including rectangles and squares, base × height)
- volume of a rectangular prism (length × width × height).

These formulas will not be given with the test questions. The estimated value of π will be given unless π is included in the answer choices.

Sample Test Question

The sample question presents a triangle with the dimensions labeled and asks students to compute the area. The correct answer is choice B. Students should know the area

formula $A = \frac{1}{2}bh$ and use it to determine that the height is 8 units and the base is 15 units. The area is 60 square units.

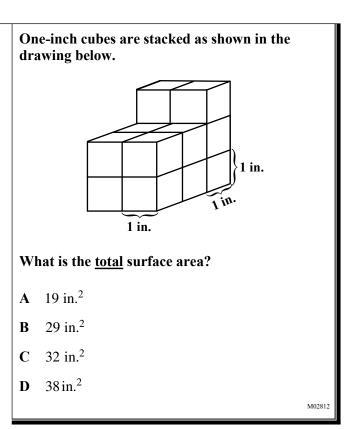
Analysis of Distractors

The distractors represent misapplications of the area formula. Distractor A uses 11 as the base, rather than 15. Distractor C uses 11 as the base and also fails to take $\frac{1}{2}$ of the product of the base and height. Distractor D applies the formula to the correct dimensions but contains the error of failing to take $\frac{1}{2}$ of the product of the base and height.

Strand ☐ **Measurement and Geometry (MG)**

Standard 7MG2.2
Estimate and compute the area of more complex or irregular two-and three-dimensional figures by breaking the figures down into more basic geometric objects.

Constructs ☐ Procedural Skills, Conceptual Understanding



This standard emphasizes the development of problem-solving skills with visual tools. CAHSEE test questions for this standard focus on both of its components. The first component requires students to identify the measurable and/or computable parts of a shape or structure. This identification task is largely dependent on the ability to visualize the familiar geometric structures that make up a more complex figure. Where estimation is required, students may be given dimensions of known shapes, scale and proportion, or grids in the visual prompt. The second component requires students to estimate and/or compute the area of the subdivided portions of a figure. Frequently, the dimensions of the component parts are not given directly by labeled measurements but must be determined by such means as adding or subtracting lengths or extending lines.

Sample Test Question

The sample question presents a drawing of an assembly of 1-inch cubes and asks students to determine the surface area. The correct answer is choice D. The foreground portion of the object contains a 2 by 2 by 2-cube grouping, and the background contains a 1 by 2 by 3-cube grouping. To find the surface area, students must visually assemble the surface of the individual cubes that make up the entire object and recognize that the object has 8 planar faces: right, rear, left, front, bottom, front top, rear face, and rear top. The surface areas of each corresponding face are 7, 6, 7, 4, 6, 4, 2, and 2 square inches, and the sum of the areas of these faces is 38 square inches.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors represent inaccurate visualizations of the faces of the object. Distractor A includes only half of the exterior faces. Distractor B fails to include either the left or right face and either the rear face or rear top. Distractor C fails to include either the bottom or rear of the figure.

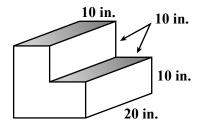
Strand Measurement and Geometry (MG)

Standard 7MG2.3

Compute the length of the perimeter, the surface area of the faces, and the volume of a three-dimensional object built from rectangular solids. Understand that when the lengths of all dimensions are multiplied by a scale factor, the surface area is multiplied by the square of the scale factor and volume is multiplied by the cube of the scale factor.

Constructs ☐ Procedural Skills,

Conceptual Understanding, Problem Solving The short stairway shown below is made of solid concrete. The height and width of each step is 10 inches (in.). The length is 20 inches.



What is the volume, in cubic inches, of the concrete used to create this stairway?

A 3000

B 4000

C 6000

D 8000

M02990

This standard contains two components. The first component focuses on the students' ability to compute the length of the perimeter, the surface area of the faces, and the volume of a three-dimensional object built from rectangular solids.

The second component focuses on the students' understanding of the results of multiplying the lengths of all dimensions by a scale factor, i.e., the surface area is multiplied by the square of the scale factor or the volume is multiplied by the cube of the scale factor. Items addressing the scale factor component of this standard may include two-dimensional objects.

Sample Test Question

The sample question shows a stairway made from 2 rectangular prisms and asks students to find the volume of the concrete used to build the stairway. The correct answer is choice C. Students should find the volume of the larger rectangular prism by multiplying 10 times 20 times 20. They should then find the volume of the smaller rectangular prism by multiplying 10 times 10 times 20. The sum of these 2 volumes gives the correct answer.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors offer solutions that use the values of the problem incorrectly and thus reflect a misunderstanding of the concept. Distractor A represents the error of finding the volume of the larger prism by multiplying 10 times 10 times 20 and the volume of the smaller prism by multiplying 10 times 10. Distractor B represents the error of finding only the volume of the larger prism. Distractor D represents the error of doubling the volume of the larger prism.

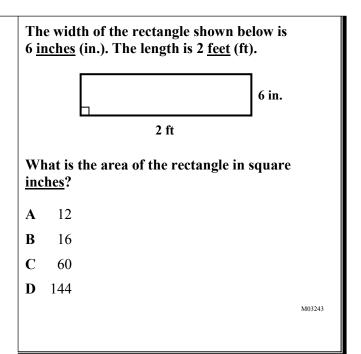
Strand **Measurement and Geometry (MG)**

Standard 7MG2.4
Relate the changes in measurement with a change of scale to the units used (e.g., square inches, cubic feet) and to conversions between units (1 square foot = 144 square inches

or
$$[1 \text{ ft}^2] = [144 \text{ in}^2]$$
,
1 cubic inch is approximately
16.38 cubic centimeters or

 $[1 \text{ in}^3] = [16.38 \text{ cm}^3]$).

Construct Conceptual Understanding



Unit conversions for area and volume have practical applications in students' lives. CAHSEE test questions for this standard require students to relate the changes in measurement with a change of scale to the units used and to convert between units. The emphasis is on the relationship between linear units for distance, square units for area, and cubic units for volume. Conversion formulas will be provided for linear measures except for inches to feet to yards or conversions within the metric system.

Sample Test Question

The sample question gives a diagram of a rectangle in inches and feet and asks students for the area in square inches. The correct answer choice is D. Students should convert 2 feet to 24 inches and multiply 6 and 24 to get the area of the rectangle.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors represent incorrect use of the values given in the problem. Distractor A represents the error of multiplying 6 and 2. Distractor B represents the error of finding the perimeter of the rectangle using the given values without making a conversion of feet to inches. Distractor C represents the error of making the conversion of feet to inches, but then finding the perimeter of the rectangle.

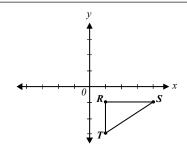
Strand **Measurement**

and Geometry (MG)

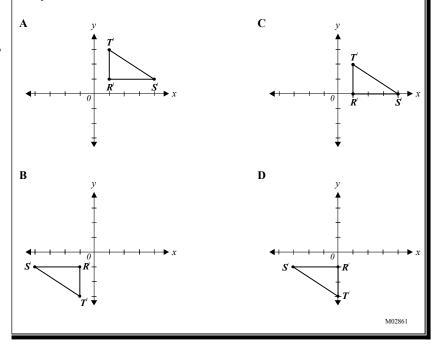
Standard 7MG3.2 Understand and use coordinate graphs to plot simple figures, determine lengths and areas related to them, and determine their image under translations and reflections.

Constructs Procedural Skills,

Conceptual Understanding, Problem Solving



Which of the following triangles R'S'T' is the image of triangle RST that results from reflecting triangle RST across the y-axis?



Understanding the *xy* coordinate system is an essential step in developing important thinking and problem-solving skills. Visualizing and manipulating objects are useful tools, not only in geometry, but also in other disciplines.

CAHSEE test questions for this standard assess students' understanding of all components of the standard: plotting with ordered pairs, determining lengths and areas from plotted figures, and finding images following transformations by translations and reflections.

Sample Test Question

The sample question requires students to choose the correct transformation of an object (triangle RST) by reflecting it across the y-axis. The correct answer is choice B. Students must recognize the reflective correspondence between points R and R', S and S', and T and that triangle R'S'T' is the reflective image, across the y-axis, of triangle RST.

Analysis of Distractors

Distractor A is the reflection of triangle *RST* across the *x*-axis. Distractor C is the reflection of triangle *RST* across the *x*-axis and its translation by one unit down, or its reflection

across $y = -\frac{1}{2}$. Distractor D is the reflection of triangle *RST* across the *y*-axis and its translation by 1 unit to the right.

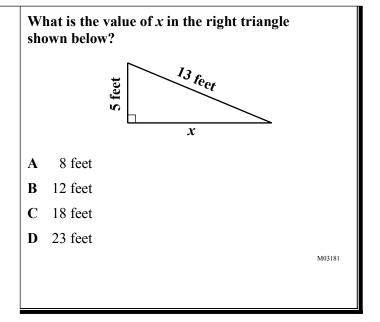
Strand

Measurement and Geometry (MG)

Standard 7MG3.3
Know and understand the
Pythagorean theorem and its
converse and use it to find the
length of the missing side of a
right triangle and the lengths of
other line segments and, in some
situations, empirically verify the
Pythagorean theorem by direct
measurement.

Constructs Conceptual

Understanding, Problem Solving



The Pythagorean theorem is important for its problem-solving function as well as its role as a bridge between geometry and algebra. CAHSEE test questions assessing this standard address the following components of the standard: using the Pythagorean theorem to find the length of the missing base, altitude, or hypotenuse of a right triangle and using the Pythagorean theorem to find lengths of line segments in figures other than triangles.

Sample Test Question

The sample test question gives a right triangle with a hypotenuse of 13 feet, an altitude of 5 feet, and an unknown base. Students should use the Pythagorean Theorem $5^2 + x^2 = 13^2$ to obtain the correct answer of 12 which is choice B.

Analysis of Distractors

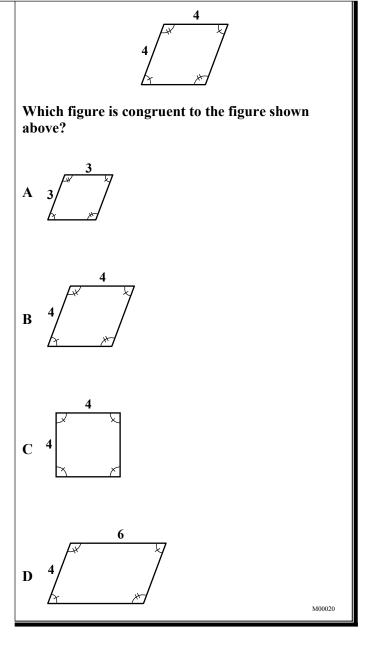
Distractor A is the difference of the hypotenuse and altitude. Distractor C is the sum of the hypotenuse and altitude. Distractor D is the sum of the hypotenuse and twice the altitude.

Strand Measurement and Geometry (MG)

Standard 7MG3.4

Demonstrate an understanding of conditions that indicate two geometrical figures are congruent and what congruence means about the relationships between the sides and angles of the two figures.

Construct Conceptual Understanding



CAHSEE test questions for this standard require students to discriminate between figures that are or are not congruent to a given figure. Students may also be asked to identify specific reasons to support the assertion that two figures are congruent. Relationships between sides and angles of figures are significant because they may indicate the presence or absence of congruence by axiomatic reasoning, such as side-angle-side congruence. Items in this standard will not involve the use of acronyms for side and angle relationships of congruent figures (e.g. SAS, SSS).

Sample Test Question

The sample question presents a figure with the dimensions of the sides given and the angles marked. Students are asked to use the characteristics of this figure to find the congruent figure among the answer choices. The correct answer is choice B. Students should understand that two

polygons are congruent if all corresponding sides and angles are congruent. Reasoning from this basis, students should recognize that the figure in choice B is congruent to the given figure because of the correspondence with sides of length 4 and angles with two marks. Students should also understand that because both figures are rhombi with non-congruent adjacent angles, all four sides are congruent and the opposite angles are congruent.

Analysis of Distractors

Distractor A provides a similar, but not congruent, figure. Distractor C is a square, and Distractor D is a parallelogram with non-congruent adjacent sides.

Algebra I Strand □

The Algebra I strand builds upon students' knowledge and skills developed from their experience with linear functions, tables, graphs, verbal rules, and symbolic rules. As students deepen their understanding of relations and functions, they will expand their capacity to make meaningful use of new types of functions, including polynomial and exponential functions. Important new learning includes combining functions, expressing functions in equivalent forms, and finding inverses. This experience leads to more global understanding of classes of functions as a concept and the recognition of the significant characteristics of various classes.

To demonstrate achievement in the Algebra I strand, students must also develop insights into mathematical abstraction and structure. Students should develop an understanding of the algebraic properties that govern the manipulation of symbols in expressions. As students become more familiar with these types of abstractions, they develop the means to solve equations and inequalities, express equivalent forms, and assert proofs.

Facility with abstraction and deeper knowledge of functions and relations give students more powerful mathematical tools to analyze and describe situations. Tools such as graphs and other visual representations of phenomena provide additional insights into problems and applications.

Standards in the Algebra I strand include performing operations such as opposite (additive inverse), reciprocal, and root; solving equations and inequalities with absolute values; simplifying expressions; solving multi-step problems with linear equations and inequalities; graphing linear equations and finding the *x*- and *y*-intercepts; verifying points on a line given an equation; deriving linear equations; understanding and using the relationship between parallel lines and slopes; solving systems of linear equations, including meaningfully interpreting their graphical representations; performing operations and solving multi-step problems with monomials and polynomials; and solving rate, work, and percent mixture problems.

The ten specific California academic content standards covered by the CAHSEE Algebra I strand are discussed in the following pages.

Strand	Algebra I (1A)	If $x = -7$, then $-x =$	
such operation opposite, find and taking a afractional	1A2.0 lerstand and use ons as taking the ding the reciprocal, root , and raising to power . They and use the rules of	A -7 B $-\frac{1}{7}$ C $\frac{1}{7}$	
exponents.*	and use the rules of	D 7	M02863
Construct	Conceptual Understanding		

Facility with inverse operations is critical for students as they solve equations and inequalities. CAHSEE test questions for this content standard focus on two of the stated components: finding the opposite (additive inverse) and finding the reciprocal. As students gain facility in algebraic reasoning, they should recognize the usefulness of finding the additive inverse and reciprocal in simplifying equations and inequalities.

Sample Test Question

The sample test question gives a value for x and asks for the opposite. The correct answer is choice D. Students should change the sign of -7 to 7.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors represent misunderstanding of taking the opposite. Distractor A represents neglecting to change the sign. Distractor B represents taking the reciprocal. Distractor C represents taking the reciprocal and the opposite.

^{*} The CAHSEE test blueprint does not include the crossed-out portion of this content standard.

Strand \square	Algebra I (1A)	If x is an integer, what is the solution to $ x-3 < 1$?	
	1A3.0 e equations and avolving absolute	A $\{-3\}$ B $\{-3, -2, -1, 0, 1\}$	
Constructs□	Procedural Skills, Conceptual Understanding, Problem Solving□	C {3} D {-1, 0, 1, 2, 3}	035

For success in algebra, students should understand the concept of absolute value and the ways its meaning is used in solving equations and inequalities. CAHSEE test questions for this standard focus on both of its components: solving equations involving absolute values and solving inequalities involving absolute values. On the examination, the tested inequalities will involve only integers.

Sample Test Question

In the sample question, students are asked to solve an inequality involving absolute value. The correct answer is choice C. Students should recognize that this inequality, |x-3| < 1, is equivalent to -1 < x - 3 < 1. By adding 3 to each member of the inequality, the following equivalence is obtained: 2 < x < 4. Since x is an integer, the solution is 3 because 3 is the only integer greater than 2 and less than 4.

Analysis of Distractors

Distractor A is the negative of the correct answer and results from a misunderstanding of absolute value. Distractors B and D result from setting up the inequality improperly and then adding –3 to only two members of the inequality.

Strand \Box Algebra I (1A)

Standard 1A4.0

Students simplify expressions before solving linear equations and inequalities in one variable, such as 3(2x-5)+4(x-2)=12.

Constructs □ **Conceptual**

Understanding, Problem Solving Which of the following is equivalent to 4(x+5)-3(x+2)=14?

A
$$4x + 20 - 3x - 6 = 14$$

B
$$4x+5-3x+6=14$$

C
$$4x+5-3x+2=14$$

D
$$4x + 20 - 3x - 2 = 14$$

M02936

Finding ways to simplify expressions before trying to solve an equation or inequality is a valuable problem-solving skill. CAHSEE test questions for this content standard involve both equations and inequalities and focus on simplification rather than solution.

Sample Test Question

In the sample question, students are asked to identify an equation that is equivalent to the given equation, thereby determining the first step in simplification. The correct answer is choice A. Students should understand that for the given equation the first step in simplifying is to expand the quantities in parentheses with each coefficient: 4x + 20 - 3x - 6 = 14.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors present incorrect simplifications. Distractor B presents the failure to multiply 4 by 5 in the first set of parentheses and the error of obtaining a product of +6 from multiplying -3 by 2. Distractor C presents the failure to multiply 4 by 5 in the first set of parentheses and -3 by 2 in the second set of parentheses. Distractor D presents the failure to multiply -3 by 2 in the second set of parentheses.

Solve for x. Strand Algebra I (1A) 5(2x-3)-6x<9Standard 1A5.0 Students solve multistep problems, x < -1.5including word problems, involving linear equations and linear В x < 1.5inequalities in one variable and provide justification for each step. x < 3D x < 6Constructs □ Procedural Skills, Conceptual Understanding, **Problem Solving**

Solving multi-step problems and word problems can help students develop problem solving skills and enhance their ability to think algebraically. CAHSEE test questions for this standard focus on both of its components: finding solutions to linear equations and inequalities and providing justification for each step in the solution. Justification requires the identification of appropriate specific steps in the solution process that contribute to solving the equation or inequality.

Sample Test Question

The sample question presents an inequality and asks students to solve for the variable. The correct answer is choice D. Students should recognize that the inequality requires expanding the quantity in parentheses by multiplying it by the coefficient, combining like terms, adding 15 to both sides of the equation, and dividing both sides by 4 to obtain the value for x.

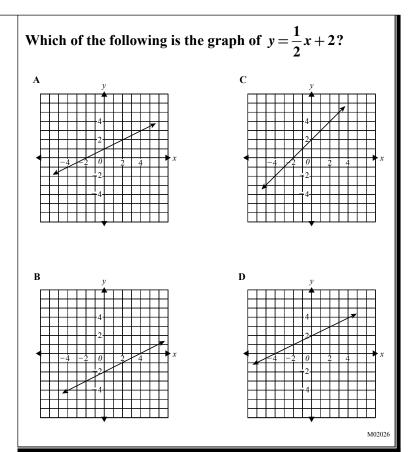
Analysis of Distractors

The distractors present mistakes in the solution process. Distractor A is obtained by subtracting 15 in the third step. Distractor B is obtained by subtracting 15 in the third step and dividing by -4 in the fourth step, or finding +6 as the sum of 15+9. Distractor C is obtained by finding 8x as the sum of 2x and -6x after failing to multiply 5 by 2 in the first set of parentheses.

Standard 1A6.0 Students graph a linear equation and compute the x-and y-intercepts (e.g., graph 2x + 6y = 4). They are also able to sketch the region defined by linear inequality (e.g., they sketch the region defined by 2x + 6y < 4).*

Constructs **Procedural**

Skills, Conceptual Understanding



CAHSEE test questions for this standard focus on two components: graphing the linear equation and finding the x- and y-intercepts. Students may be asked to identify the graph that corresponds to a given equation or to identify the equation that corresponds to a given graph. The x- and y-intercepts may be identified by a single number or a coordinate pair.

Sample Test Question

The sample question presents an equation and asks students to identify the correct graph of the equation from among four choices. The correct answer is choice D. Students should recognize that the equation, $y = \frac{1}{2}x + 2$, is in the form y = mx + b and use this information to determine the correct graph: The variable b represents the y-intercept, which in this case is 2, and the variable m represents the slope of the graph, which in this case is $\frac{1}{2}$.

^{*} The CAHSEE test blueprint does not include the crossed-out portion of this content standard.

Analysis of Distractors

Distractor A displays a line with a slope of $\frac{1}{2}$ and y-intercept of 1. Distractor B displays a line with a slope of $\frac{1}{2}$ and y-intercept of -2. Distractor C displays a line with a slope of 1 and y-intercept of 2.

73

Which of the following points lies on the line Strand Algebra I (1A) 4x + 5y = 20? Standard 1A7.0 A (0,4)Students verify that a point lies on a line, given an equation of the (0, 5)line. Students are able to derive linear C (4, 5) equations. by using the point slope formula.* **D** (5, 4) Constructs □ Procedural Skills, Conceptual Understanding, **Problem Solving**

CAHSEE test questions for this standard require students to select a set of one or more points, either by ordered pairs or by graphical location, that lie on the graph of a given linear equation, or to select an equation, either by its algebraic notation or by its graph, whose graph includes one or more specified points. Components of the standard include verifying that a point lies on a given line and deriving an equation from information given about the line. To verify that points do or do not lie on a given line, students may use substitution of *x*- or *y*- values to find corresponding ordered pairs.

Sample Test Question

The sample question presents an equation and asks students to identify an ordered pair that would lie on the graph of that equation. The correct answer is choice A. Students should recognize that the equation 4x + 5y = 20 represents true statements for certain corresponding pairs of values for x and y. The values may be tested by substituting them for x and y, respectively, in the equation. If x = 0 and y = 4, then 4(0) + 5(4) = 20 is a true statement.

Analysis of Distractors

Distractor B would mean substituting 0 for x and 5 for y, the result being that 4(0) + 5(5) = 25 rather than 20. Distractor C means substituting 4 for x and 5 for y, the result being that 4(4) + 5(5) = 41 rather than 20. Distractor D means substituting 5 for x and 4 for y, the result being that 4(5) + 5(4) = 40 rather than 20.

^{*} The CAHSEE test blueprint does not include the crossed-out portion of this content standard.

Standard 1A8.0

Students understand the concepts of parallel lines and perpendicular lines and how their slopes are related. Students are able to find the equation of a line perpendicular to a given line that passes through a given point.*

Constructs Conceptual

Understanding, Problem Solving What is the slope of a line parallel to the line

$$y=\frac{1}{3}x+2?$$

- $\mathbf{A} = -3$
- **B** $-\frac{1}{3}$
- $\mathbf{C} = \frac{1}{2}$
- **D** 2

M0265

To demonstrate understanding of this content standard, students must know that parallel lines have equivalent slopes and different *x*- and *y*-intercepts. CAHSEE test questions for this standard may require students to find the slope of a line parallel to a given line, to identify pairs of parallel lines from their slopes, or to identify lines not parallel to a given line from a given or derived slope.

Sample Test Question

The sample question asks students to determine the slope of a line parallel to a given line. The correct answer is choice C. Students should know that parallel lines have equivalent slopes. They must also recognize that the slope of the line that is represented by the equation

$$y = \frac{1}{3}x + 2$$
 is $\frac{1}{3}$.

Analysis of Distractors

Distractor A is the negative reciprocal of the slope of the given equation. It is also the slope of y = -3x + 2. Distractor B is the additive inverse of the slope of the given equation. It is also the

slope of $y = -\frac{1}{3}x + 2$. Distractor D is the *y*-intercept of the given equation.

^{*} The CAHSEE test blueprint does not include the crossed-out portion of this content standard.

Standard 1A9.0

Students solve a system of two linear equations in two variables algebraically and are able to interpret the answer graphically. Students are able to solve a system of two linear inequalities in two variables and to sketch the solution sets.

Constructs Procedural Skills,

Conceptual Understanding, Problem Solving $\begin{cases}
7x + 3y = -8 \\
-4x - y = 6
\end{cases}$

What is the solution to the system of equations shown above?

- **A** (-2, -2)
- **B** (-2, 2)
- C (2, -2)
- D(2,2)

M02956

Many real-world situations are most appropriately modeled as systems of equations, and graphs of these kinds of systems are common in newspapers and other media. CAHSEE test questions for this content standard focus on four components: solving systems of linear equations, interpreting the solutions graphically, solving a system of linear inequalities, and determining the solution sets.

Sample Test Question

The sample question presents a system of equations and asks students to find the solution. The correct answer is choice B. To solve this sample problem, students should use a method such as the following:

(multiply the second equation by 3)	-12x - 3y = 18
(add to the first equation)	-5x = 10
(divide by 5)	x = -2

(substitute
$$x = -2$$
 in the first equation)
$$7(-2) + 3y = -8$$
(expand)
$$-14 + 3y = -8$$
(combine)
$$3y = 6$$
(divide by 3)
$$y = 2$$

Analysis of Distractors

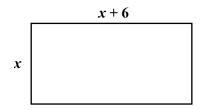
Distractor A results from errors in substitution and/or computation, as does Distractor D. Distractor C presents a misunderstanding of the correct order of the *x* and *y* values.

Standard 1A10.0

Students add, subtract, multiply, and divide monomials and polynomials. Students solve multistep problems, including word problems, by using these techniques.

Constructs Procedural Skills,

Conceptual Understanding, Problem Solving



The length of the rectangle above is 6 units longer than the width. Which expression could be used to represent the area of the rectangle?

$$\mathbf{A} \quad x^2 + 6x$$

B
$$x^2 - 36$$

C
$$x^2 + 6x + 6$$

D
$$x^2 + 12x + 36$$

M00402

This standard requires students to accurately execute arithmetic operations on monomials and polynomials and to select and use these techniques to solve problems.

Sample Test Question

The sample question presents a rectangle with length and width labeled with a monomial and a binomial, and students are asked to determine the expression that would correctly represent the area. The correct answer is choice A. Students must know to multiply the length by the width in order to find the area and then perform the computation correctly.

Analysis of Distractors

Distractors B, C, and D represent examples of incorrect multiplication of the monomial by the binomial.

D 125

Mr. Jacobs can correct 150 guizzes in Strand Algebra I (1A) 50 minutes. His student aide can correct 150 quizzes in 75 minutes. Working together, Standard 1A15.0 how many minutes will it take them to Students apply algebraic correct 150 quizzes? techniques to solve rate problems, work problems, and percent A 30 mixture problems. B 60 \mathbf{C} 63

Constructs Procedural Skills.

> Conceptual Understanding, **Problem Solving**

problems, work problems, and percent mixture problems.

The key assessment of student learning in any subject is whether or not students can apply their knowledge and skills to a new problem situation. CAHSEE test questions written for this standard focus on students' ability to apply their mathematical skills and knowledge to solve rate

Sample Test Question

The sample question presents a rate problem in the context of grading quizzes. The correct answer is choice A. Students should recognize that correcting 150 quizzes in 50 minutes is equivalent to the rate of 3 guizzes per minute and that correcting 150 guizzes in 75 minutes is equivalent to the rate of 2 quizzes per minute. Working together, Mr. Jacobs and his aide can correct 5 guizzes each minute: 150 guizzes ÷ 5 guizzes/minute = 30 minutes.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors represent misunderstandings of a rate problem. Distractor B represents the number of minutes it would take both individuals to complete the task at the rate of 2.5 quizzes/minute—the average of their rate. Distractor C is the approximate average of their time for 150 guizzes. Distractor D is the sum of the number of minutes each takes to correct 150 quizzes (50 + 75).

Mathematical Reasoning Strand □

Reasoning is an integral part of mathematics and requires several important skills, including examining patterns, making and testing conjectures, and using formal inductive and deductive reasoning to formulate mathematical arguments. Mastery of each of these elements of reasoning requires students to work with diverse problems and activities.

Activities in this strand require language with sufficient precision, clarity, and appropriateness to support rigorous thinking. Standards in mathematical reasoning require students to analyze problems by identifying relationships, to formulate and justify conjectures, to use estimation on the basis of numerical or graphical information, to use inductive and deductive reasoning, to evaluate the reasonableness of solutions, and to generalize results and apply them to new problems.

Each question in this strand is also classified within one of the four grades 6 and 7 mathematical strands for purposes of reporting student scores. None of the questions in this strand are classified in the Algebra I strand.

The six specific California academic content standards covered by the CAHSEE Mathematical Reasoning strand are discussed in the following pages.

Strand Mathematical Reasoning (MR)

Standard 7MR1.1
Analyze problems by identifying relationships, distinguishing relevant from irrelevant information, identifying missing information, sequencing and prioritizing information, and observing patterns.

Constructs Procedural Skills,

Conceptual Understanding, Problem Solving Chris drove 100 kilometers from San Francisco to Santa Cruz in 2 hours and 30 minutes. What computation will give Chris' average speed, in kilometers per hour?

- **A** Divide 100 by 2.5.
- **B** Divide 100 by 2.3.
- C Multiply 100 by 2.5.
- **D** Multiply 100 by 2.3.

M03164

Students must be able to analyze situations to clarify a problem and to identify those elements that will make it possible to solve the problem. CAHSEE test questions for this standard emphasize the analysis of problems rather than their solutions. The components of the standard include the following: determining relationships, discriminating between relevant and irrelevant information, identifying missing information, sequencing and prioritizing information, and observing and identifying algebraic and geometric patterns.

Sample Test Question

The sample question requires students to understand the relationship between the given distance (100 km), the given time (2 hours 30 minutes), and the rate (unknown). The correct answer is choice A. Students must recognize that Chris' average speed is the unknown variable and must know how to use the distance, rate, time equation to determine the rate. This question is classified in the Measurement and Geometry strand for purposes of reporting student scores.

Analysis of Distractors

The distractors represent errors in the application of the given information and the equation. Distractor B indicates that division is the appropriate computation; however, it provides 2.3 as an incorrect value for 2 hours and 30 minutes. Distractor C presents an incorrect operation, multiplication, although the expression for the number of hours is correct. Distractor D presents multiplication as the operation and also presents an incorrect value for 2 hours and 30 minutes.

Strand	Mathematical Reasoning (MR)	If n is any odd number, which of the following is true about $n+1$?	
Standard	7MR1.2	A It is an odd number. \Box	
Formulate and justify mathematical conjectures based on a general description of the mathematical question or problem posed.		B It is an even number. \Box	
		C It is a prime number. □	
		D It is the same number as $n-1$.	.55
Constructs□	Conceptual Understanding, Problem Solving		

The challenge for many students in formulating mathematical conjectures is precision of language. CAHSEE test questions for this standard focus on both of its components: formulation of a conjecture and justification of a conjecture. Students may be asked to make conjectures based on indirect or incomplete evidence. Test questions may state a conjecture and ask students to choose among reasons that the conjecture is reasonable.

Sample Test Question

The sample question presents n as any odd number and then requires evaluation of four conjectures. The correct answer is choice B. Students should reason that if n is odd, n+1 is necessarily even. Students may also attempt to find counterexamples, i.e., examples of odd n and also odd n+1. This question is classified in the Algebra and Functions strand for purposes of reporting student scores.

Analysis of Distractors

Students should reason that Distractor A is always false because n+1 must always be even. Distractor C is true only when n=1, since 2 is the only even prime. Distractor D is never true, since n-1 always differs from n+1 by 2. Strand **Mathematical**

Reasoning (MR)

Standard **7MR2.1** Use estimation to verify the reasonableness of calculated results.

Constructs □ Procedural Skills,

Conceptual Understanding, **Problem Solving**

The table below shows the number of visitors to a natural history museum during a 4-day period.

Day	Number of Visitors
Friday	597
Saturday	1115
Sunday	1346
Monday	365

Which expression would give the BEST estimate of the total number of visitors during this period?

A
$$500 + 1100 + 1300 + 300$$

B
$$600 + 1100 + 1300 + 300$$

$$\mathbf{C}$$
 600 + 1100 + 1300 + 400

D
$$600 + 1100 + 1400 + 400$$

M11112

This standard emphasizes estimating and evaluating the reasonableness of results. This standard requires students to use estimating skills in computation and compare estimated results to calculated results in order to judge their reasonableness.

Sample Test Question

The sample question gives a table of 4 values and asks students to find the expression that will give the best estimate of the total of the values. The correct answer choice is C. Students should round each value to the nearest hundred. This question is classified in the Number Sense strand for purposes of reporting student scores.

Analysis of Distractors

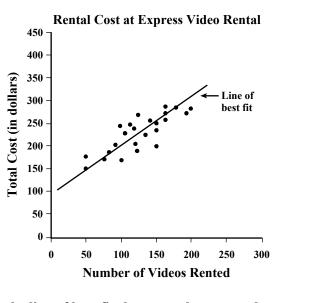
The distractors represent rounding errors. Distractor A represents the error of rounding 597 to 500 and 365 to 300. Distractor B represents the error of rounding 365 to 300. Distractor D represents the error of rounding 1346 to 1400.

Strand Mathematical Reasoning (MR)

Standard 7MR2.3
Estimate unknown quantities graphically and solve for them by using logical reasoning and arithmetic and algebraic techniques.

Constructs Procedural Skills,

Conceptual Understanding, Problem Solving



Using the line of best fit shown on the scatterplot above, which of the following best approximates the rental cost per video to rent 300 videos?

- A \$3.00
- **B** \$2.50
- C \$2.00
- **D** \$1.50

M02209

Graphs provide a quick summary of data or of a relationship but may not include the specific information required to answer a particular question. By identifying trends and patterns and using interpolation and extrapolation, students may be able to obtain a reasonable estimate of the needed information. This content standard has two components: estimating graphically and solving for unknown quantities. CAHSEE test questions for the standard may ask students to find or identify the most accurate line of best fit through a scatterplot, to extract information from a graph by interpolation or extrapolation, or to identify an equation that could be used to solve a problem shown in a graph.

Sample Test Question

The sample question includes a scatterplot that relates total cost to number of videos rented. Finding the line of best fit requires an approximation of the correspondence between videos rented (*x*-axis) and total cost (*y*-axis). The correct answer is choice D. Students should recognize that extending the line to include an *x*-value that corresponds to 300 videos allows the interpretation of a corresponding value of the total cost on the *y*-axis. From the line of best fit, renting 300 videos corresponds to approximately \$450, or \$1.50 per video. This question is classified in the Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability strand for purposes of reporting student scores.

Analysis of Distractors

Distractor A requires a total cost of approximately \$900 to obtain a per video cost of \$3.00, which is out of the range of the line of best fit. Distractor B requires a total cost of approximately \$750 to obtain a per video cost of \$2.50, also out of the range of the line of best fit. Similarly, Distractor C requires a total cost of approximately \$600 to obtain a per video cost of \$2.00, also out of the range of the line of best fit.

Strand Mathematical

Reasoning (MR)

Standard 7MR2.4 Make and test conjectures by using both inductive and deductive reasoning.

Constructs Conceptual

Understanding, Problem Solving

The table below shows values for x and corresponding values for y.

x	у
21	3
14	2
28	4
7	1

Which of the following represents the relationship between x and y?

$$\mathbf{A} \quad y = \frac{1}{7}x$$

$$\mathbf{B} \quad \mathbf{y} = 7x$$

$$\mathbf{C} \quad y = x - 6$$

D
$$y = x - 18$$

M00377

Being able to identify patterns (inductive reasoning) and then testing the validity of the patterns (deductive reasoning) are key skills in many fields besides mathematics. This standard requires students to use inductive and deductive reasoning to make and test conjectures. CAHSEE test questions for this standard may require reasoning from general to specific, from specific to general, and by use of counterexample.

Sample Test Question

The sample test question requires students to use mathematical reasoning to determine the relationship between x and y. The correct answer is choice A. Students should be able to

recognize that the values for y are $\frac{1}{7}$ that of the values for x. This question is classified in the

Algebra and Functions strand for purposes of reporting student scores.

Analysis of Distractors

Distractor B represents the values of x being multiplied by 7. Distractor C is correct only when the value of x is 7. Distractor D is correct only when the value of x is 21.

Strand Mathematical Reasoning (MR)

Standard 7MR3.3

Develop generalizations of the results obtained and the strategies used and apply them to new problem situations.

Construct **Problem Solving**

Len runs a mile in 8 minutes. At this rate how long will it take him to run a 26-mile marathon?

Which of the following problems can be solved using the same arithmetic operations that are used to solve the problem above?

- **A** □Len runs 26 miles in 220 minutes. How long does it take him to run each mile?
- **B** □A librarian has 356 books to place on 18 shelves. Each shelf will contain the same number of books. How many books can the librarian place on each shelf?
- C □A cracker box weighs 200 grams. What is the weight of 100 boxes?
- **D** □Each basket of strawberries weighs 60 grams. How many baskets can be filled from 500 grams of strawberries?

M00137

One key problem-solving skill is to recognize how a new problem is like a simpler or more familiar problem. This content standard requires students to understand the process by which problems are reasoned, analyzed, and solved. CAHSEE test questions for this standard may include the selection of appropriate analogs to a given problem situation, and the relevance of the analogs as applied to the types of reasoning, patterns of operations, or logical extensions, rather than to context or other more superficial characteristics of the problem. Test questions for this standard may or may not require numerical solutions.

Sample Test Question

The sample test question presents a mathematical problem in context that requires multiplication to find a total. Students must select the most appropriate analog to finding the total time for running 26 miles at the rate of 1 mile per 8 minutes. The correct answer is choice C. Students should recognize the analog in using multiplication to determine the total weight of 100 cracker boxes, with 1 cracker box weighing 200 grams. This question is classified in the Number Sense strand for purposes of reporting student scores.

Analysis of Distractors

Distractor A requires the calculation of time (in minutes) per one mile, rather than per 26 miles as stated in the question. In Distractor B it is necessary to calculate the number of books per shelf by dividing 356 by 18. Distractor D is similar to B, since to find the number of 60-gram baskets in 500 grams, the appropriate step is to divide 500 by 60.